

ULTIMATE

ISSUE

44


SPIDER-MAN[®]



**BENDIS
BAGLEY
THIBERT**

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TAMPERED



70 YEARS OF MARVEL COMICS

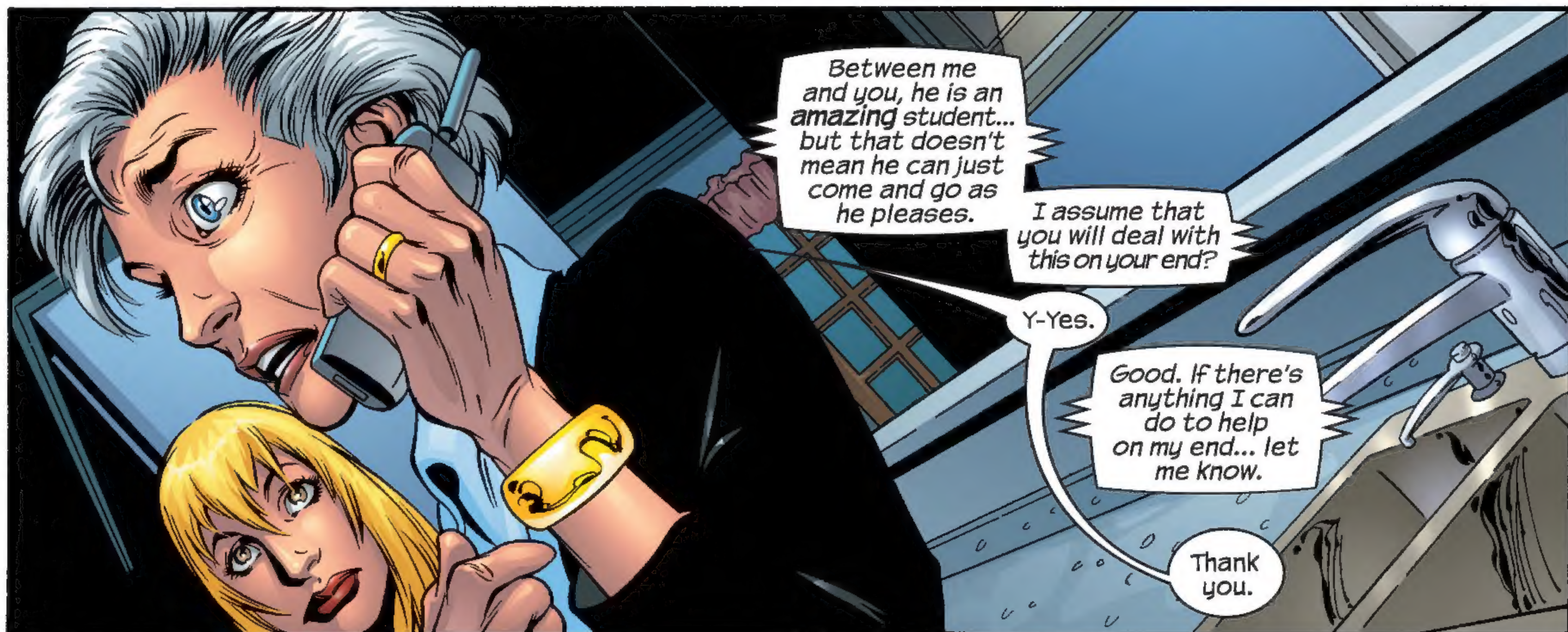
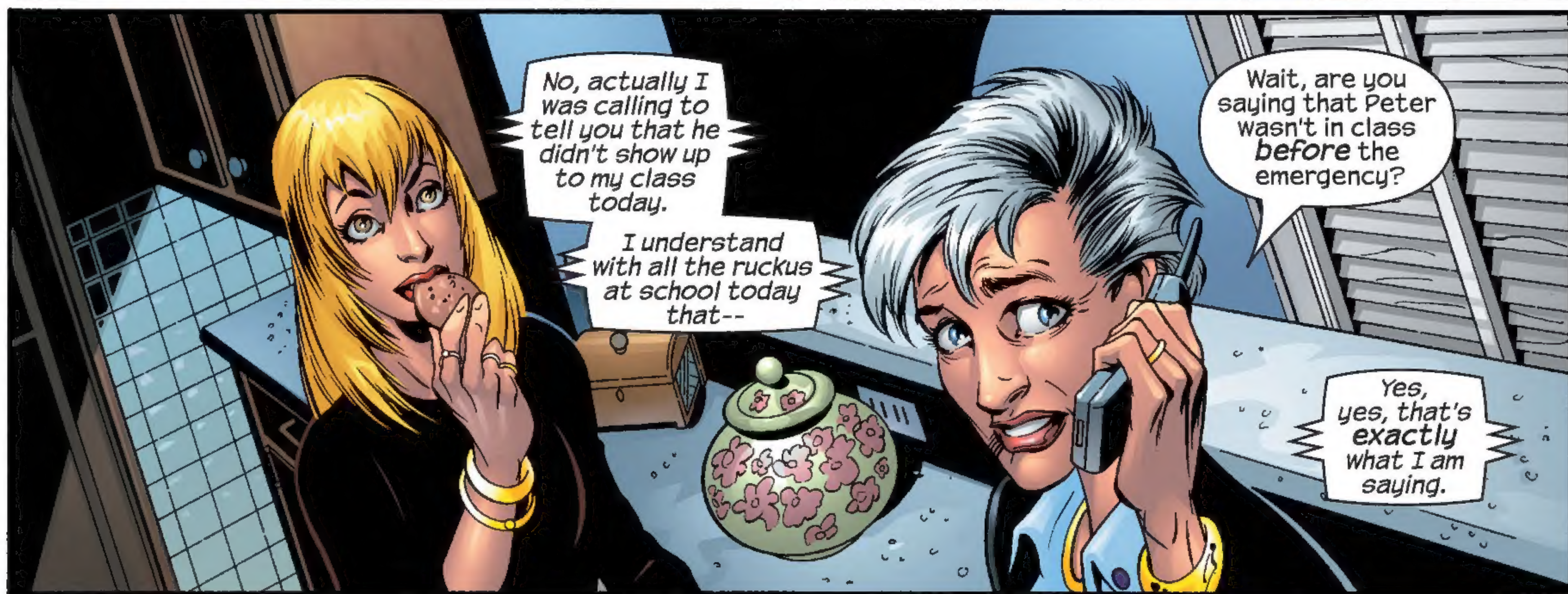
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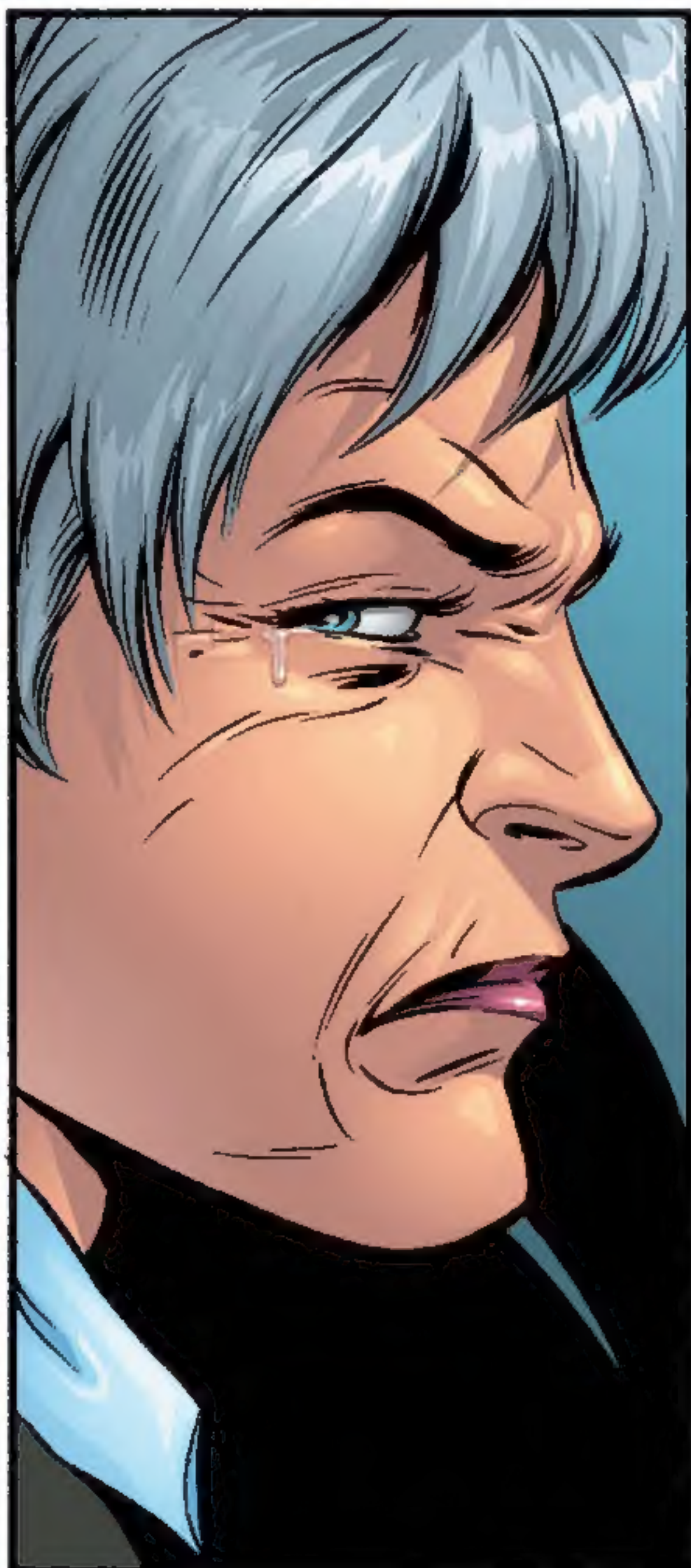
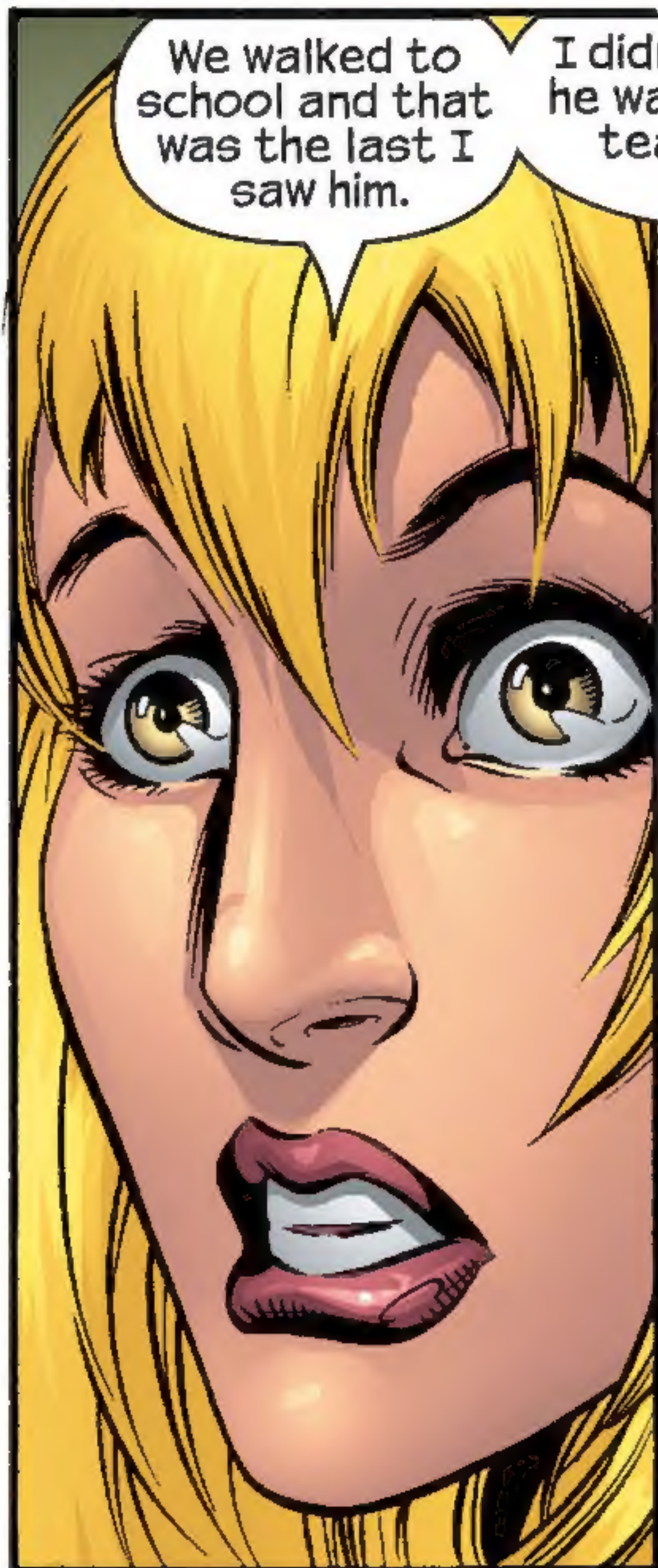
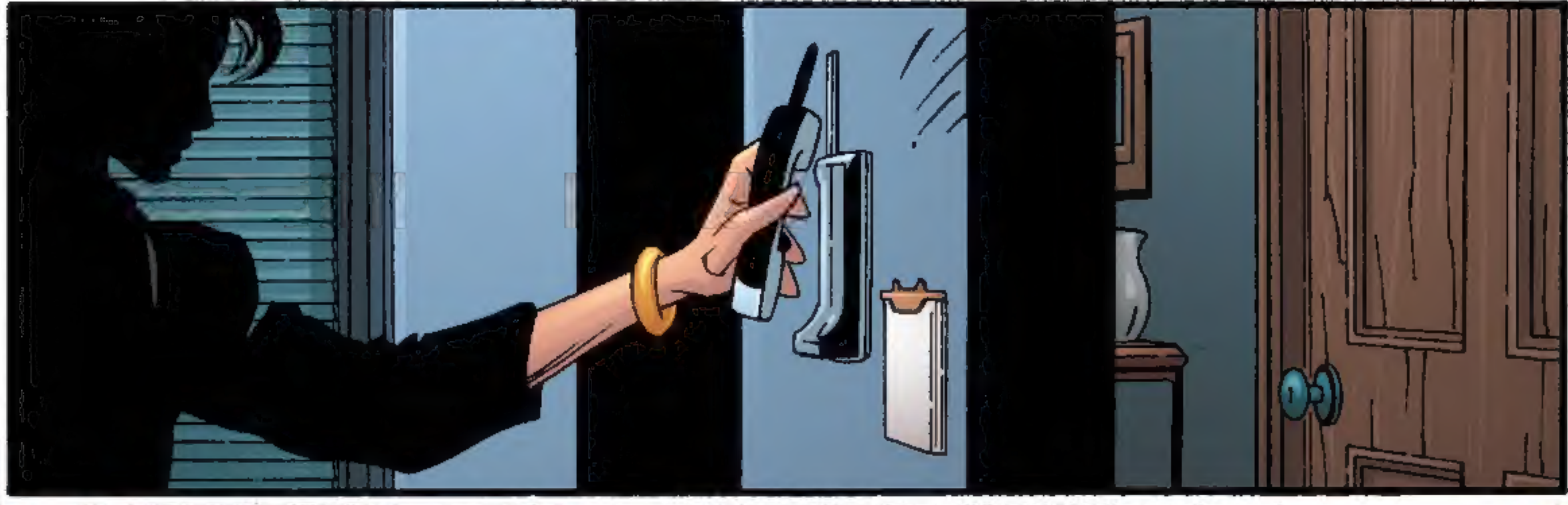
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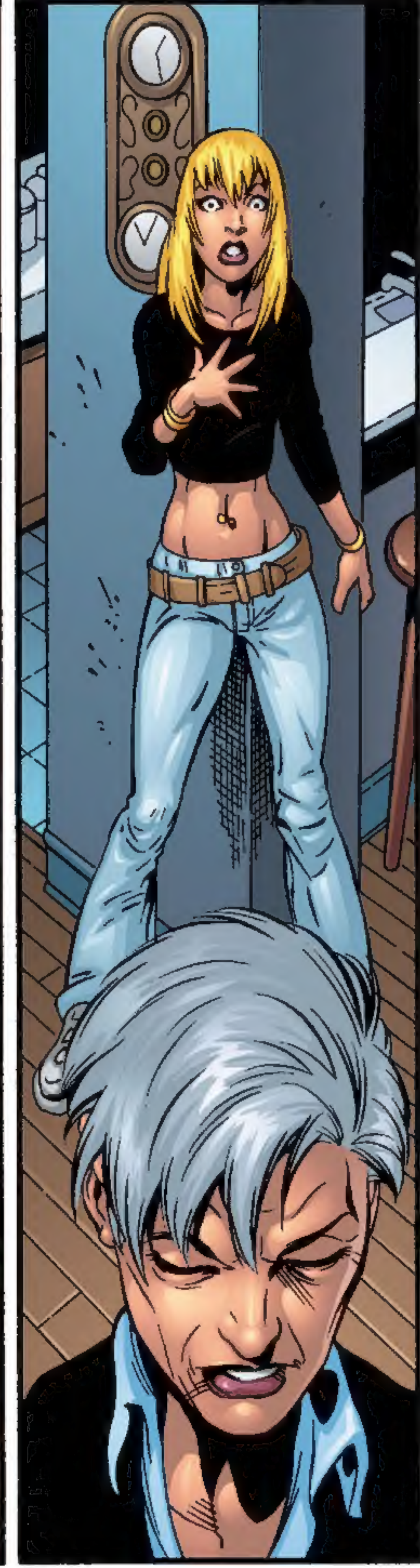
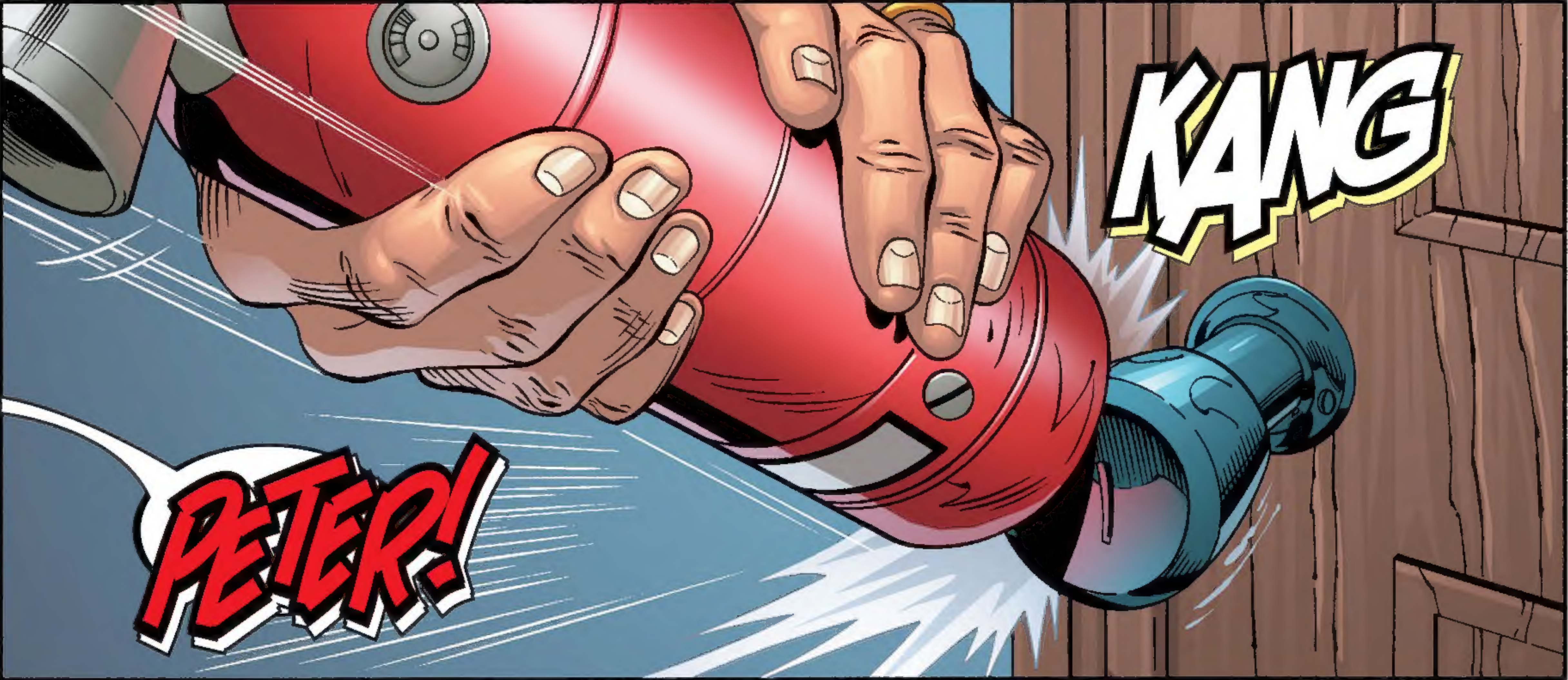
70 YEARS
MARVEL
COMICS

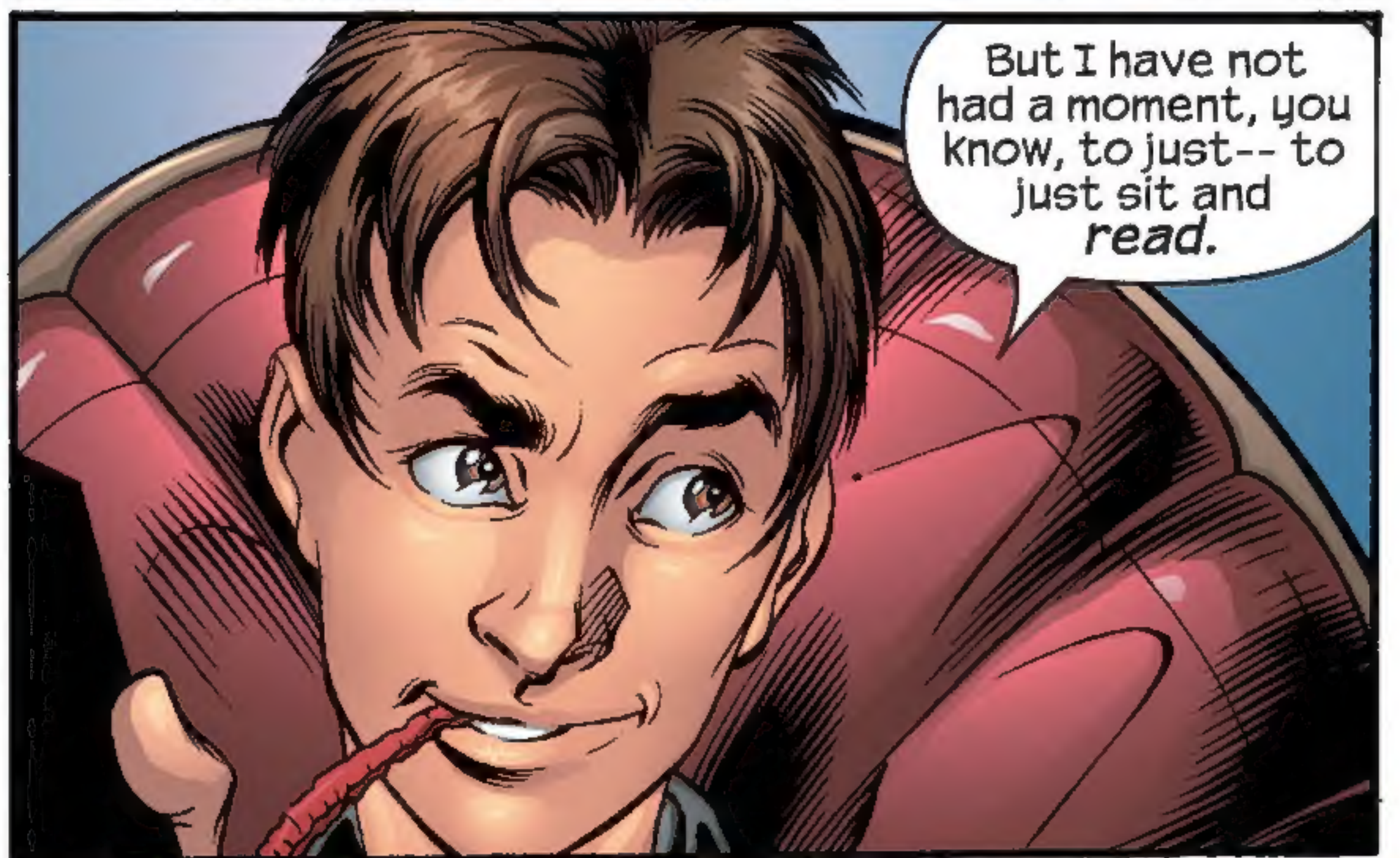


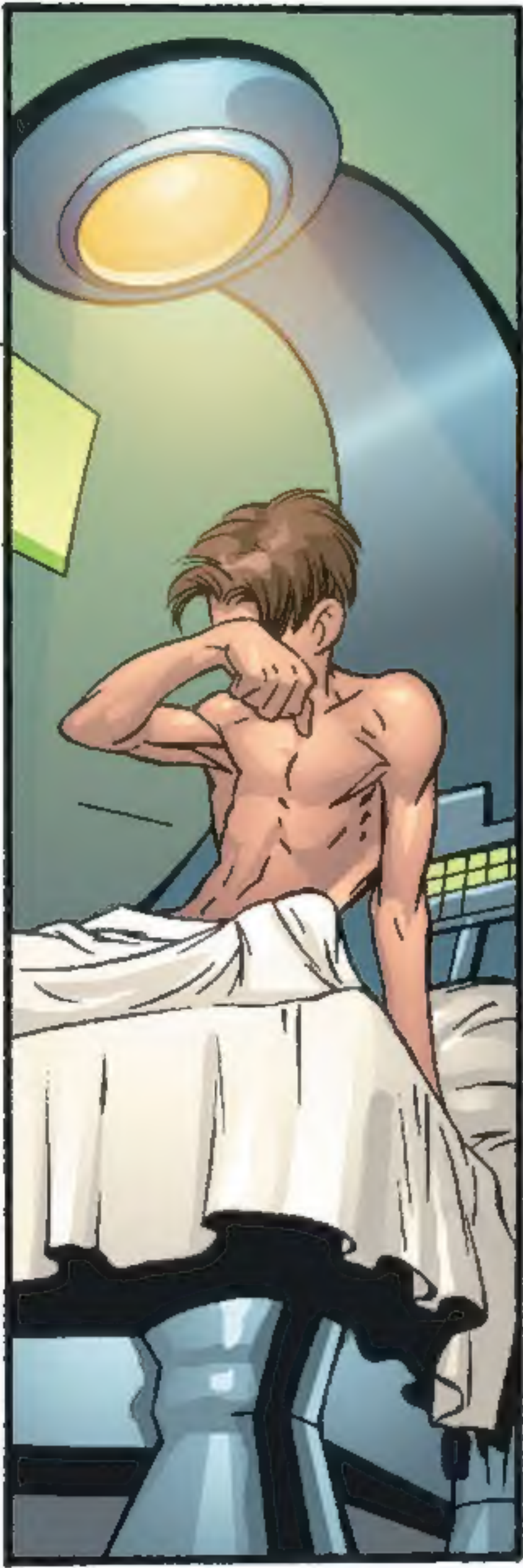
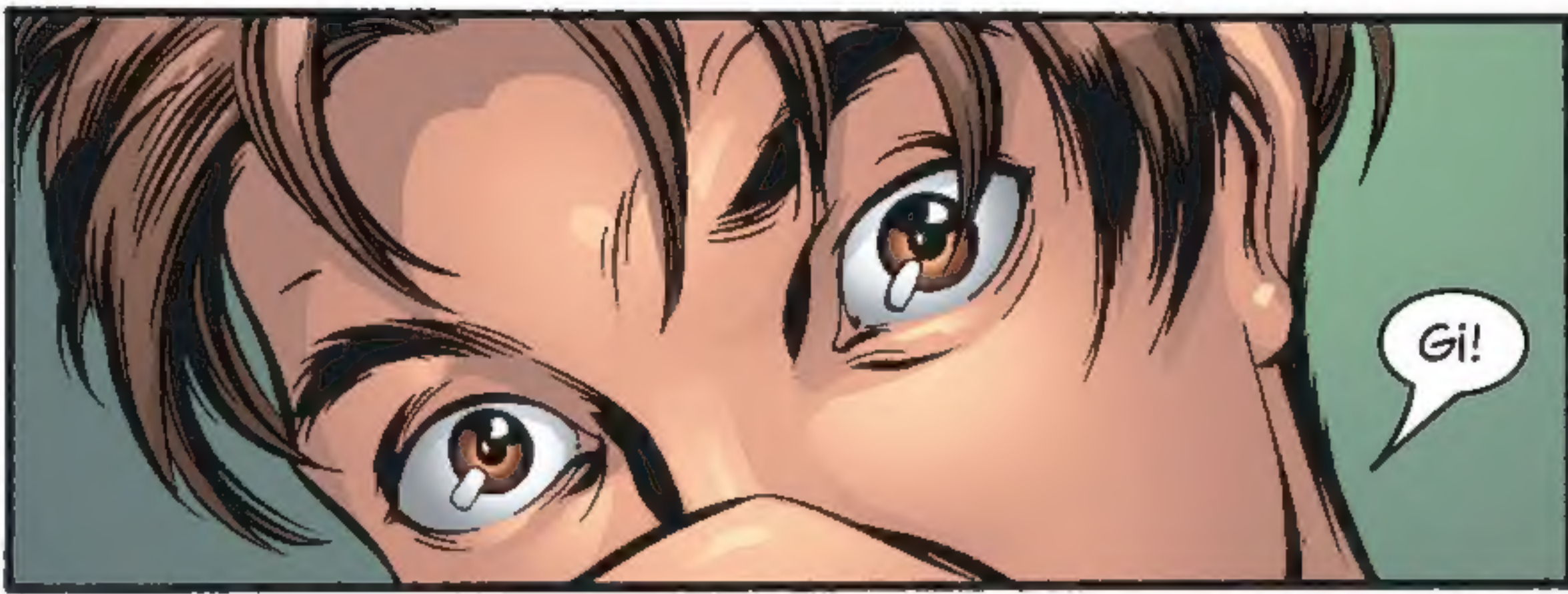
Parker home, Queens.







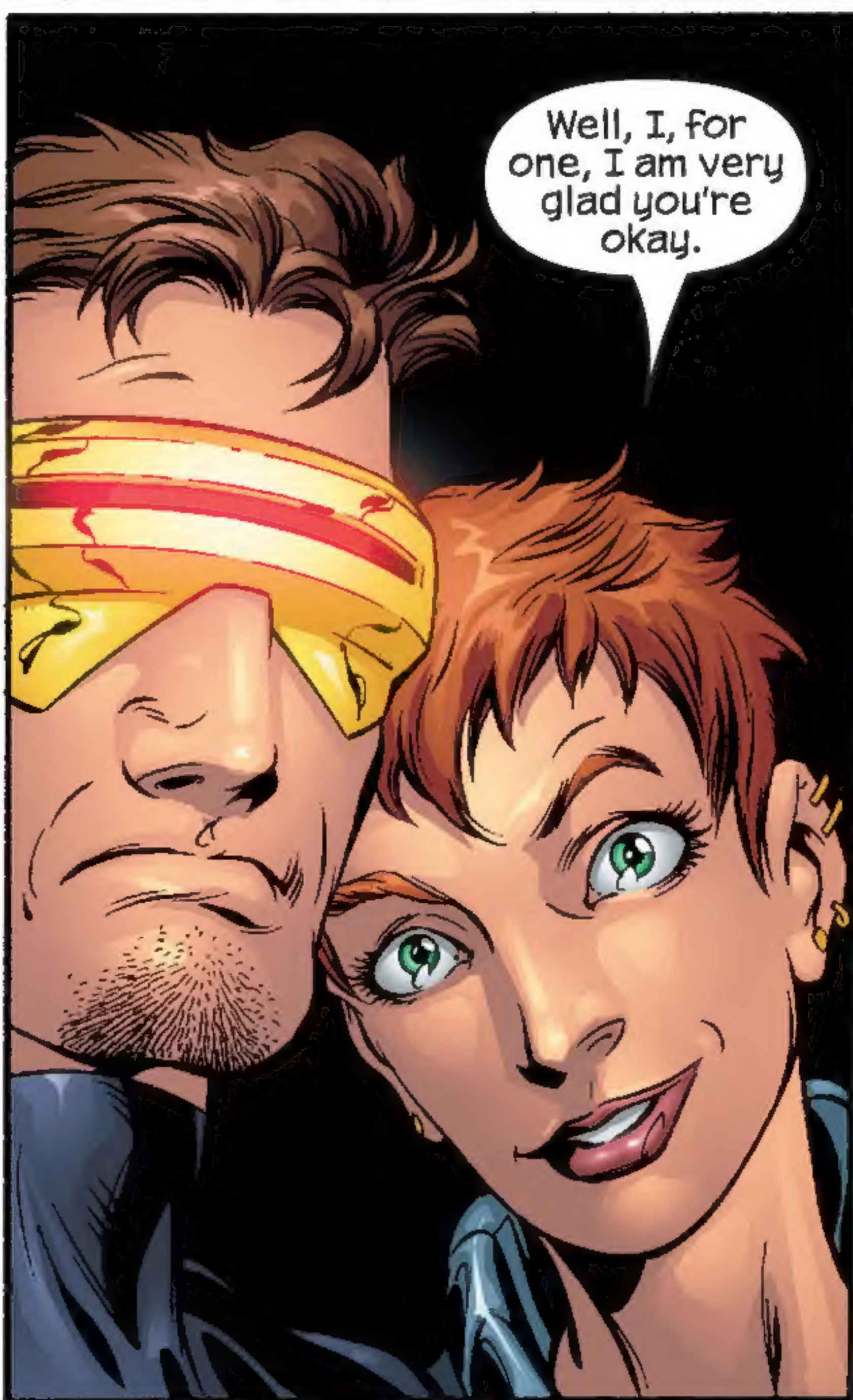
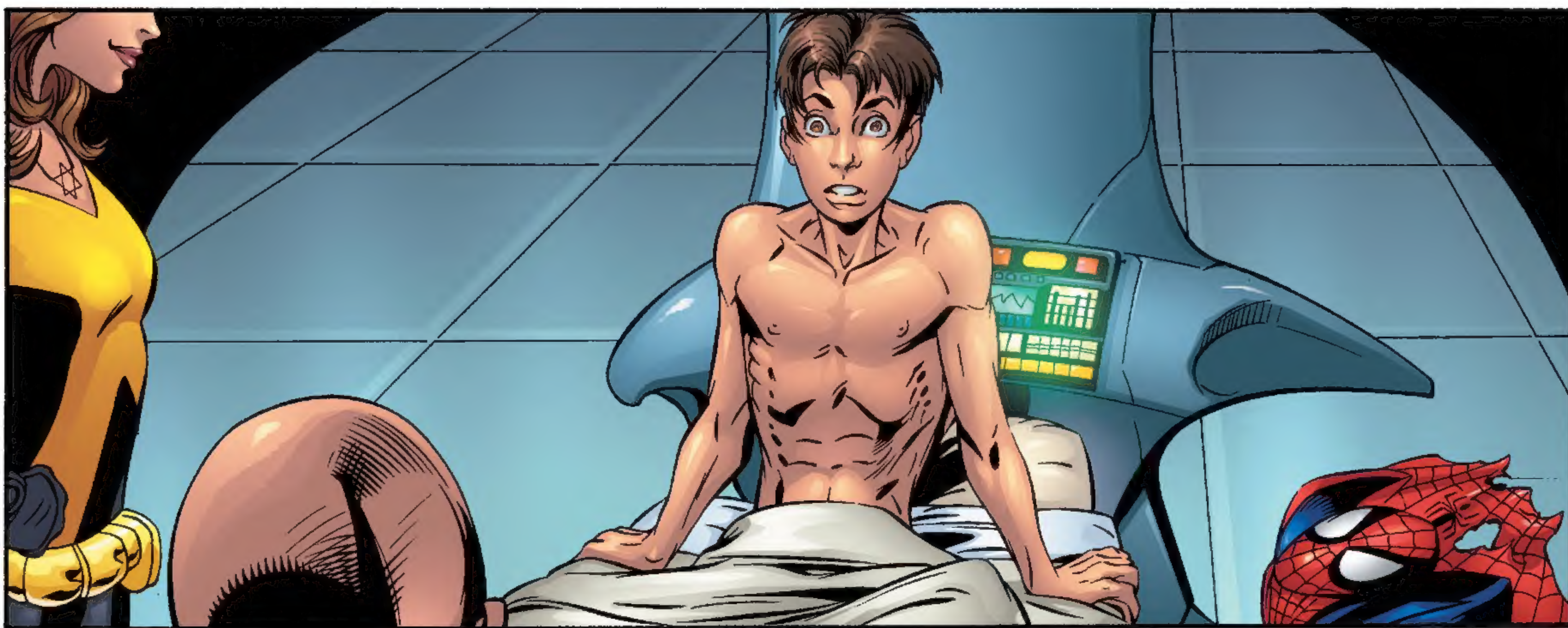




Peter,
my name
is Charles
Xavier.

These
are my
X-Men.

(Uncanny...)





Storm!!
Storm, we're
in trouble
here!!

Jean, the
Spider-Man kid
and the other
kid-- the guys
are going to
die!!

We're
going to
die!

I can't--
can't keep this
plane together
telekinetically at
this speed.

Not even
close!!!

Kitty,
hold on to
something!!

Yeah, okay.
Why don't I
do that!!!

I don't
know what
to do!! I
can't--

Wait, Ororo,
switch!!

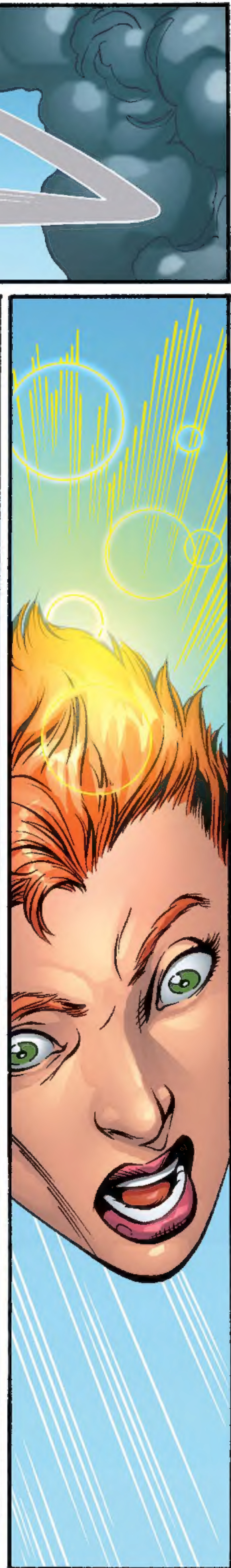
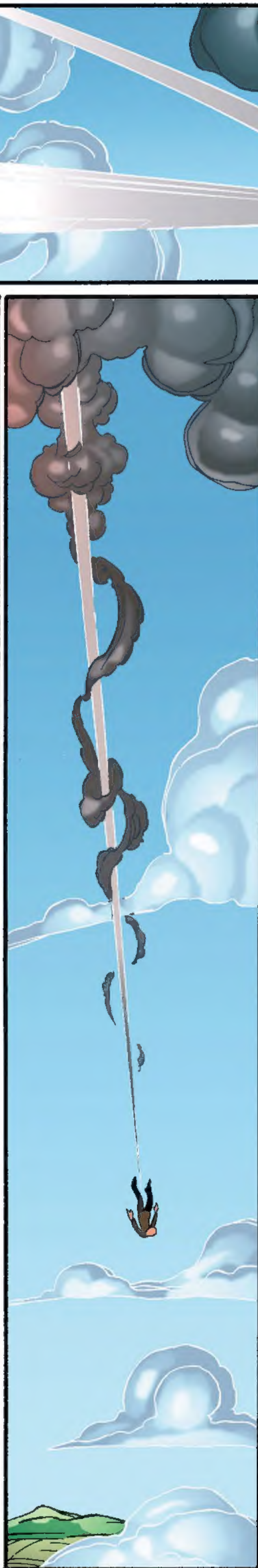
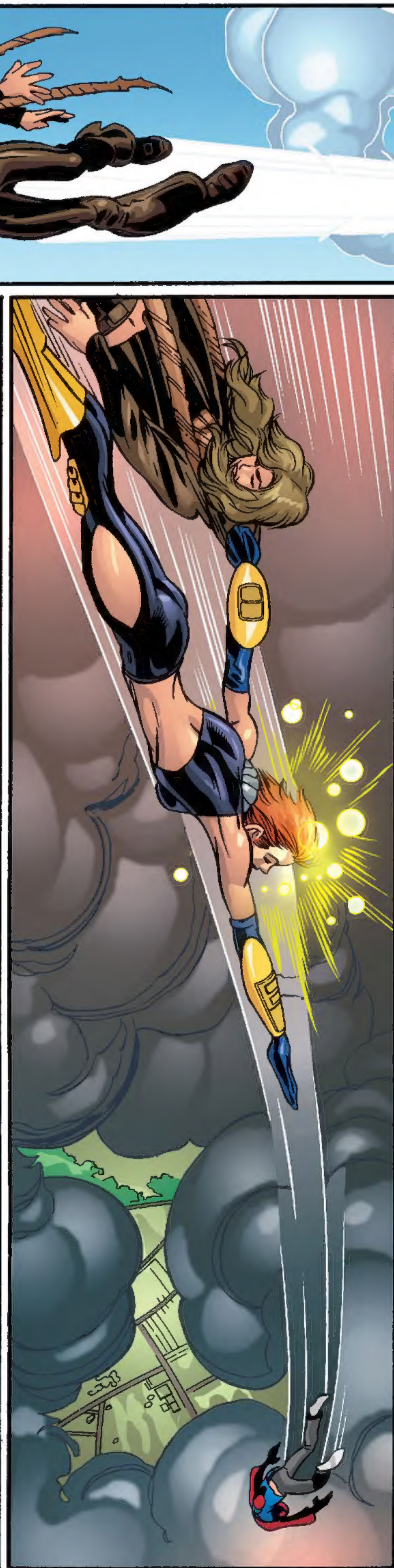
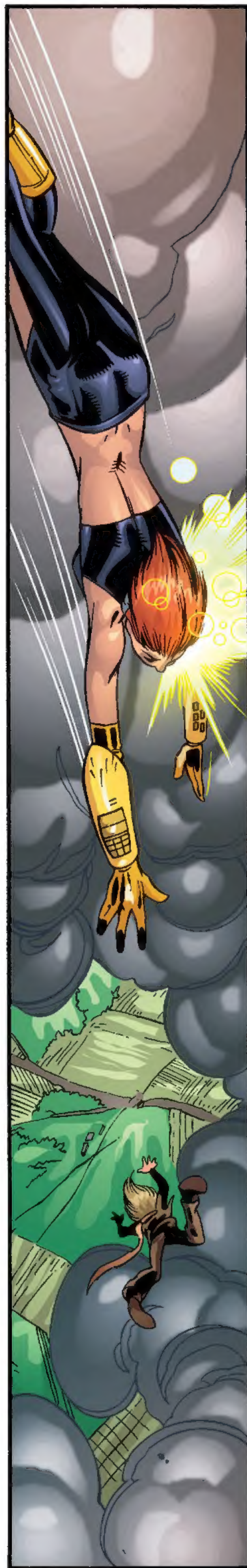
What?

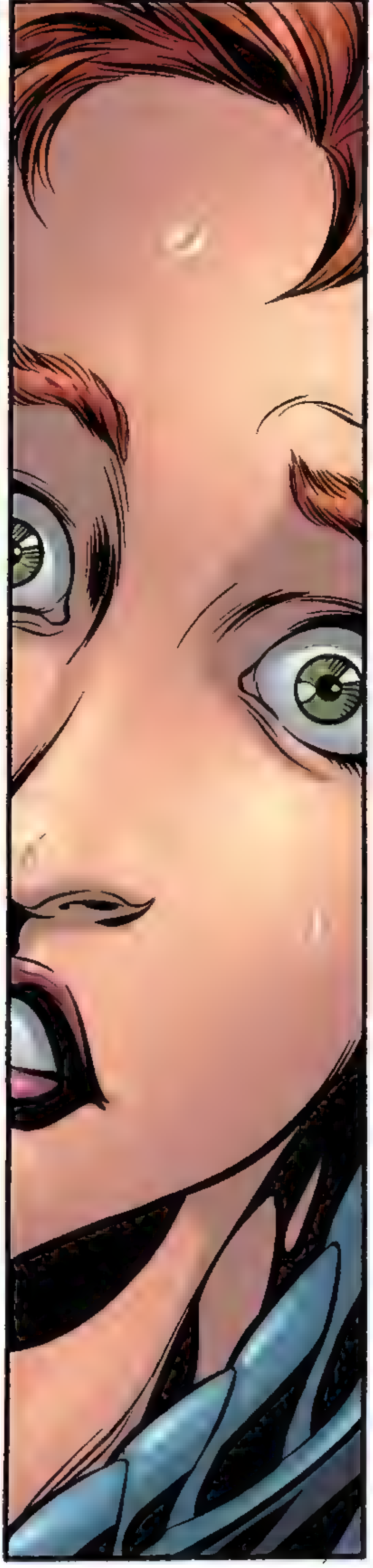
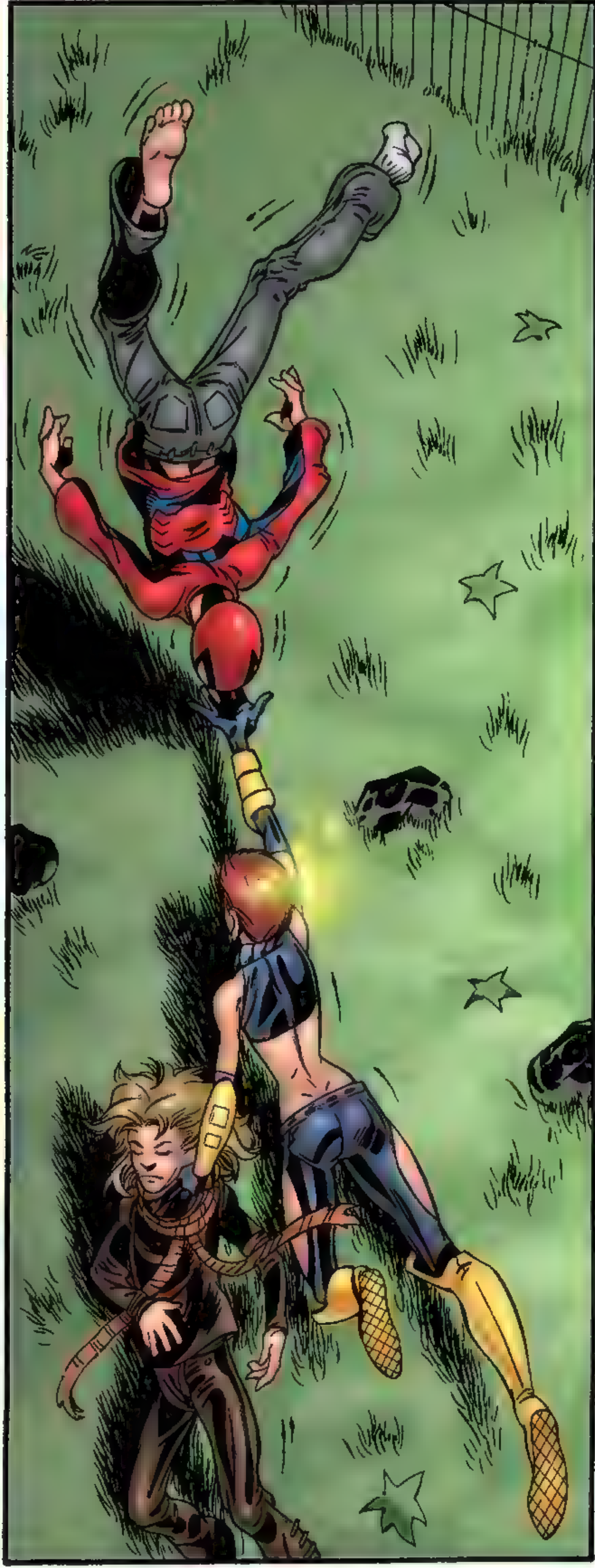
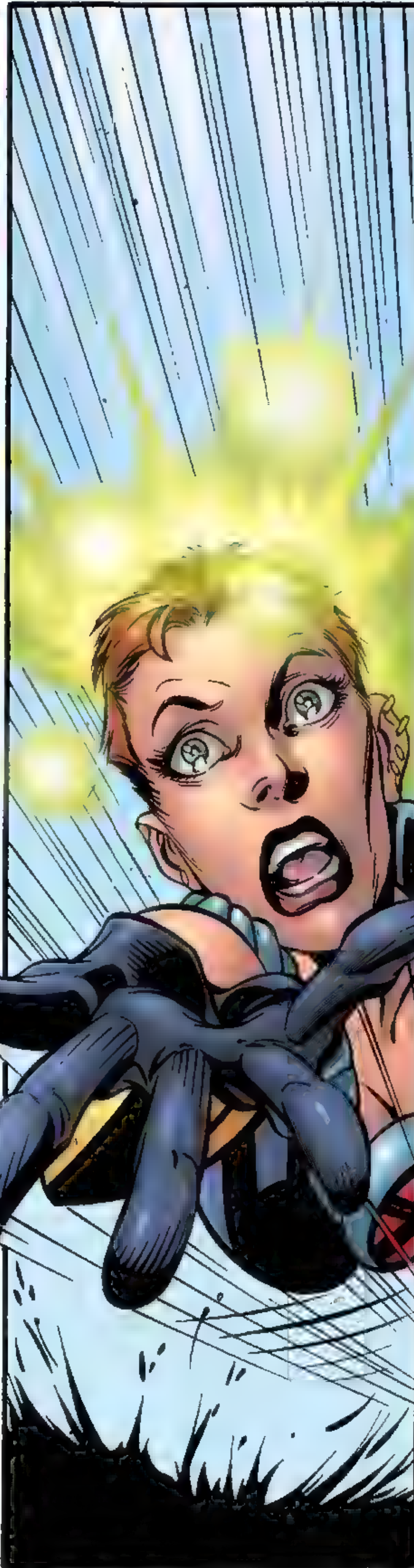
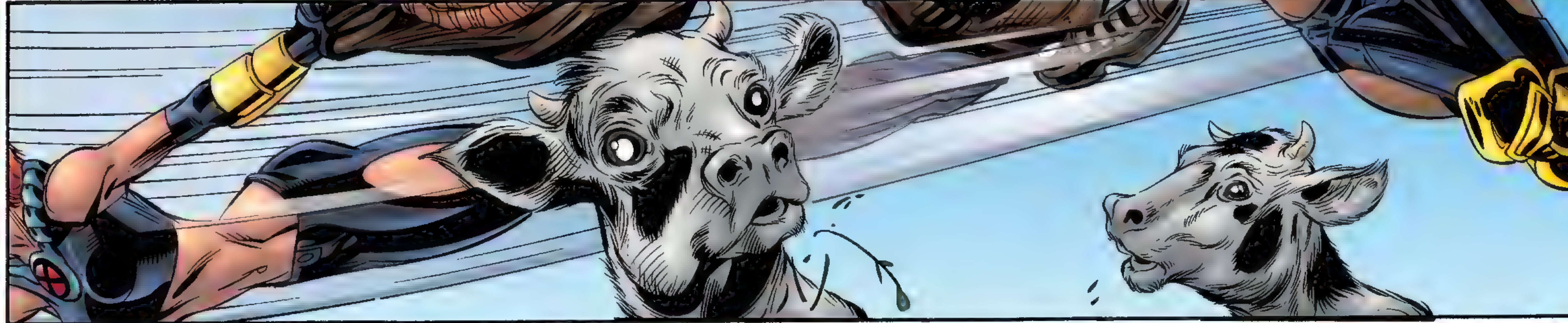
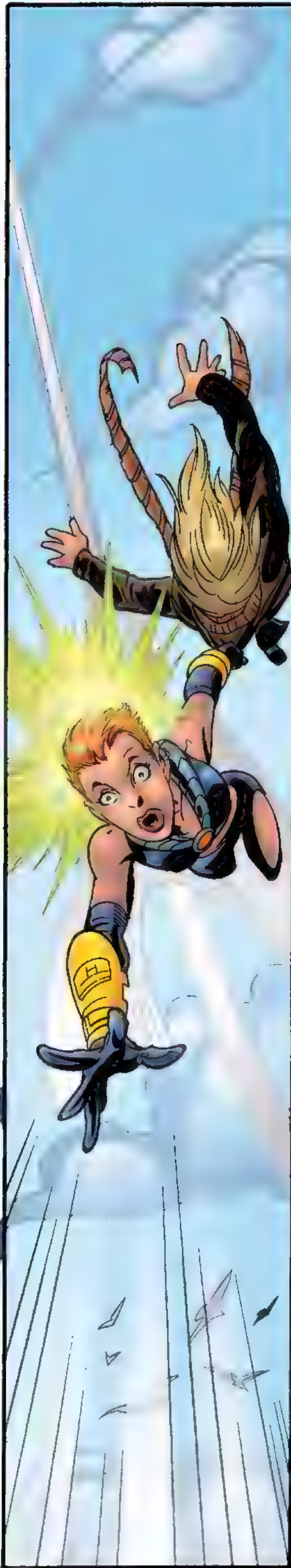
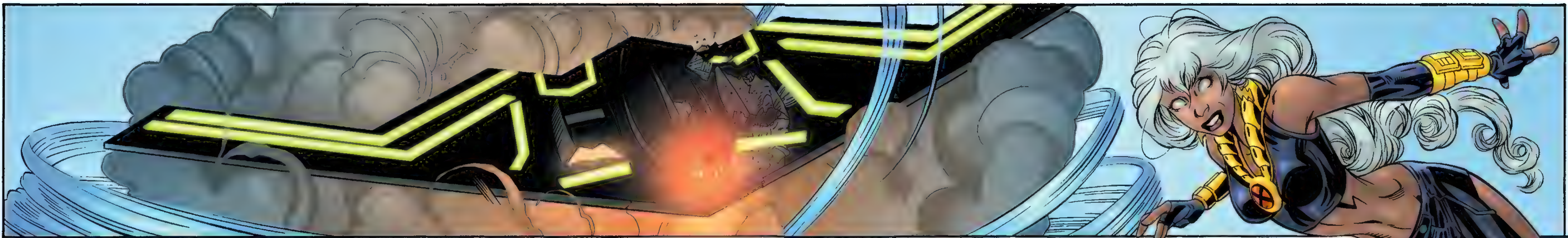
Storm, take
the plane, I'll
get the boys.

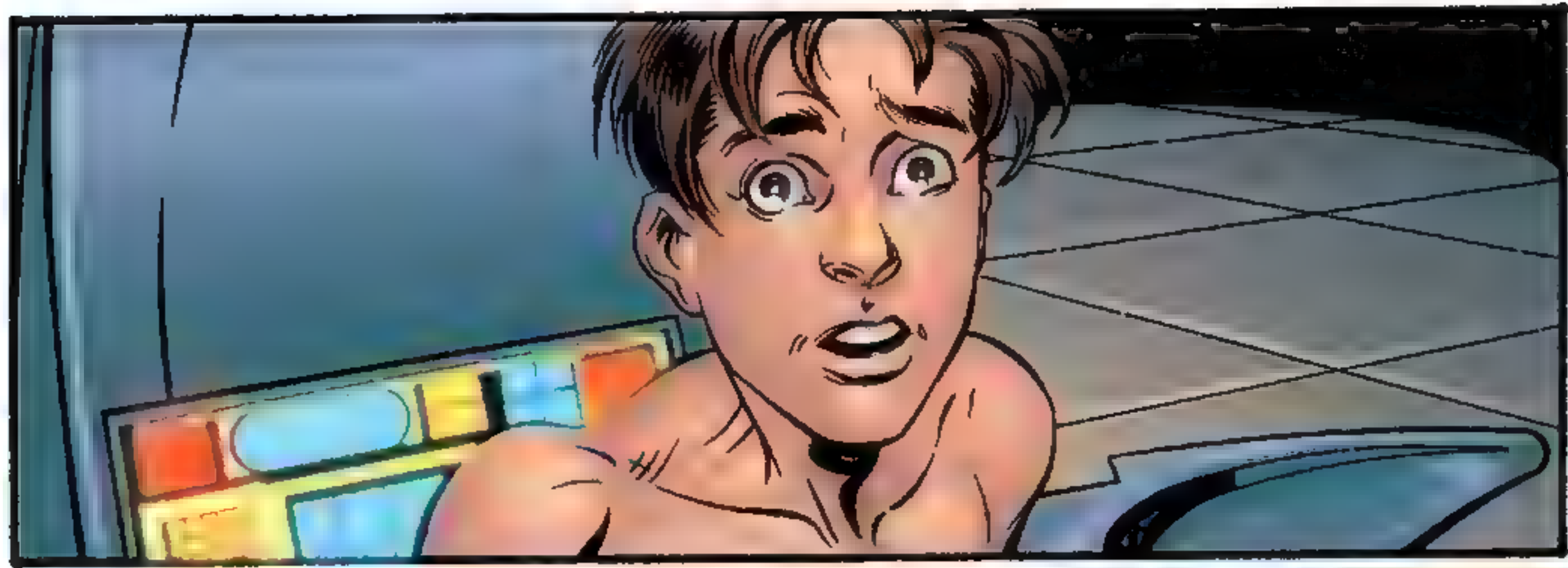
Watch your wind,
'Ror. I'm working
on psych here.

Sorry.

Hold
on, Kitty
cat.







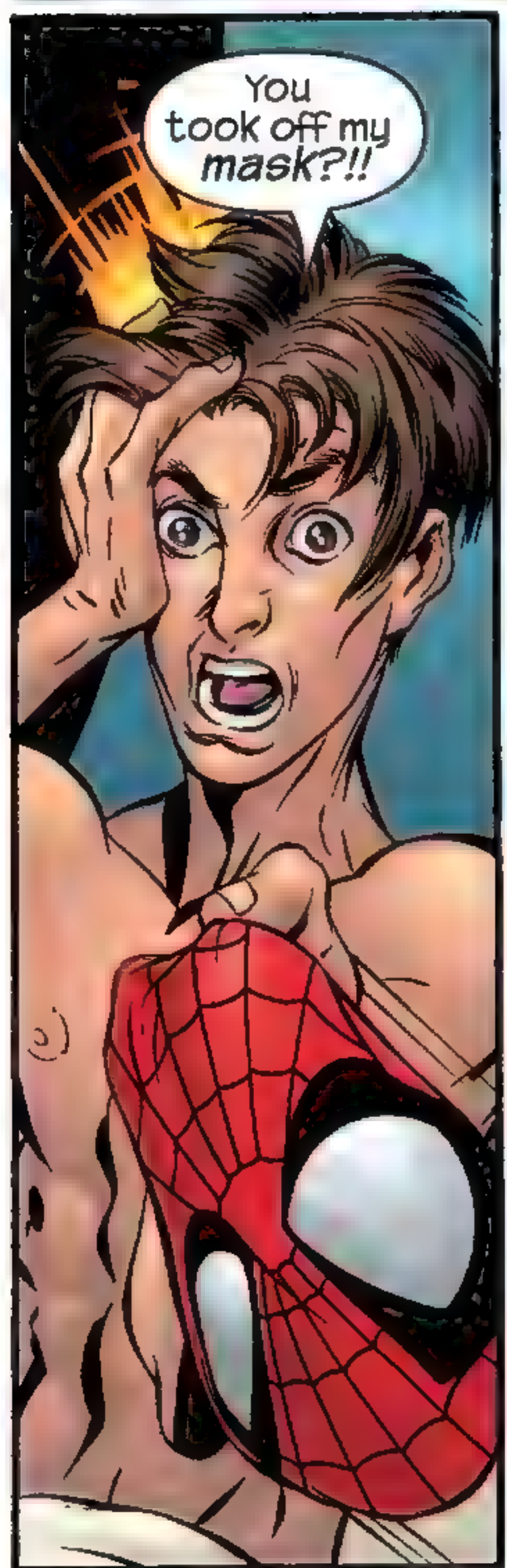
Aaaand you're welcome.

Oh, man...

Yeah.

Oh! Oh, come on...

What?



You took off my mask?!!



We wanted to make sure you were still breathing.

Man! I am trying to keep a secret identity here!!

No one respects my secret identity!! **No one!!**

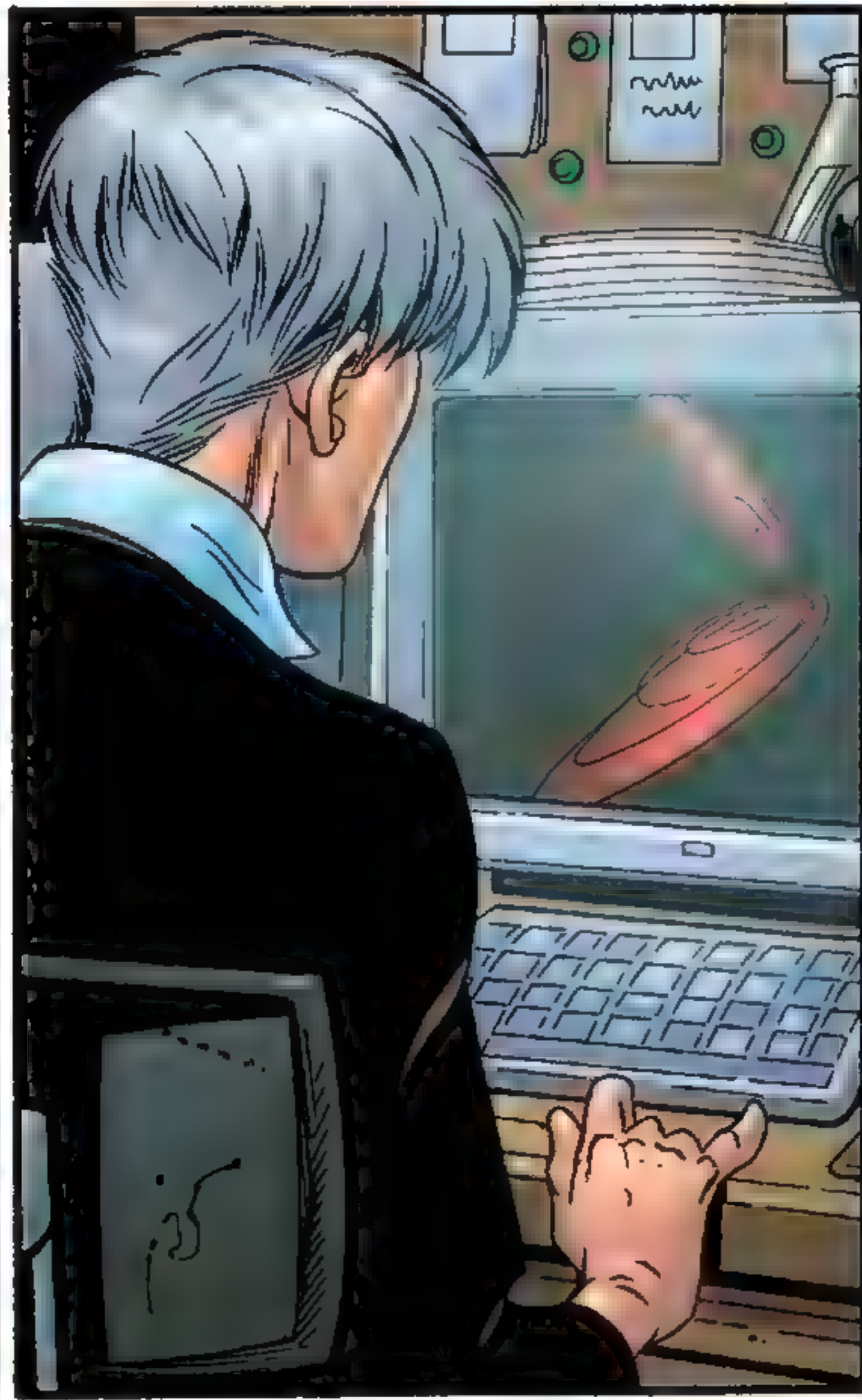
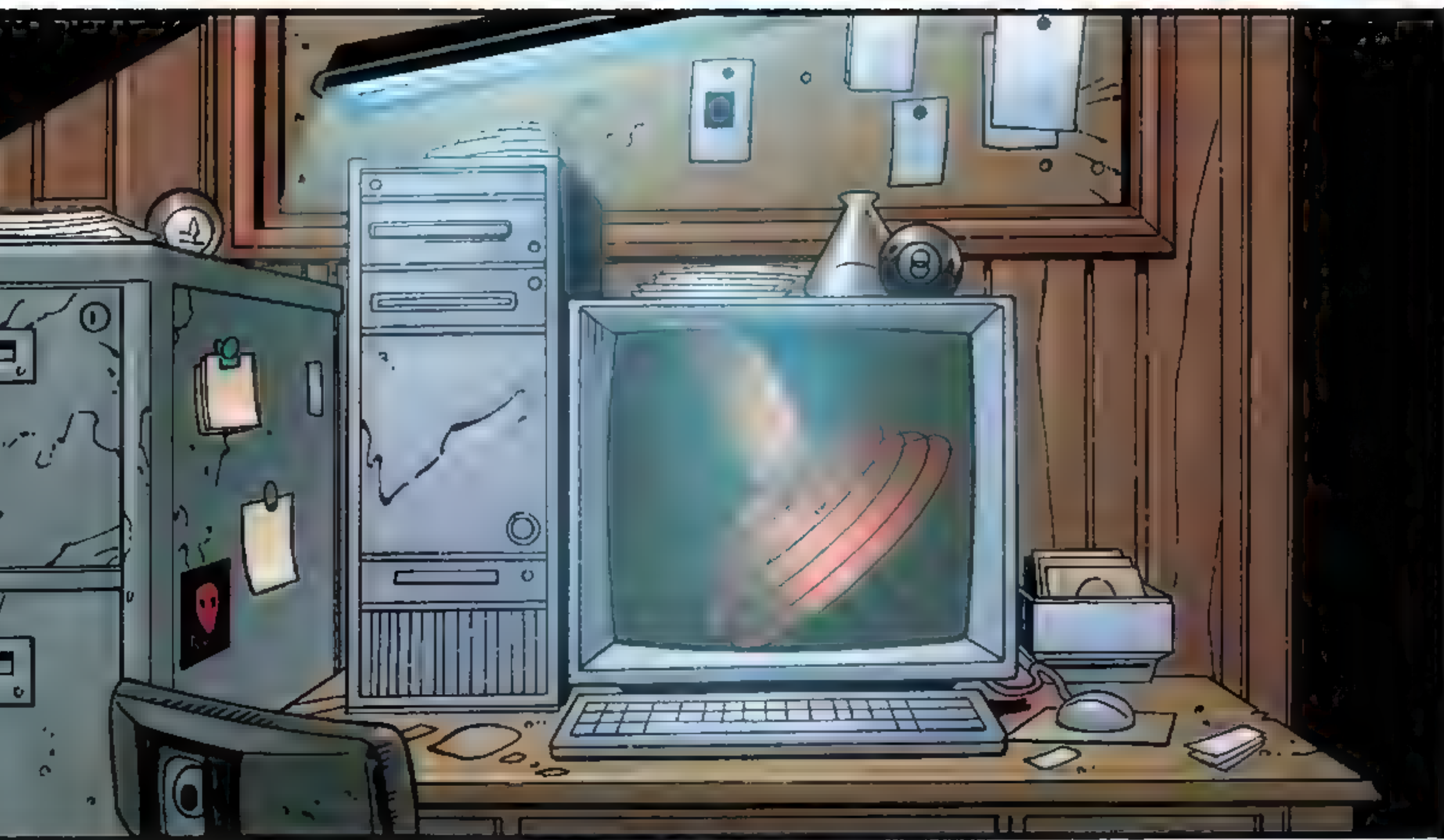
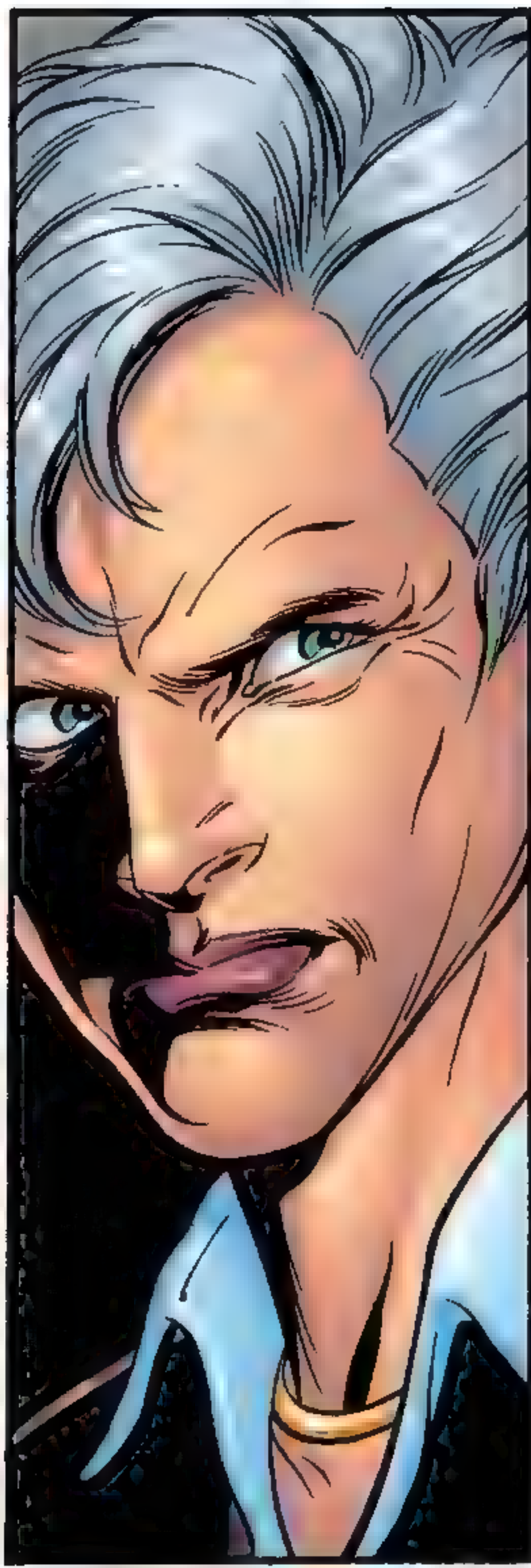
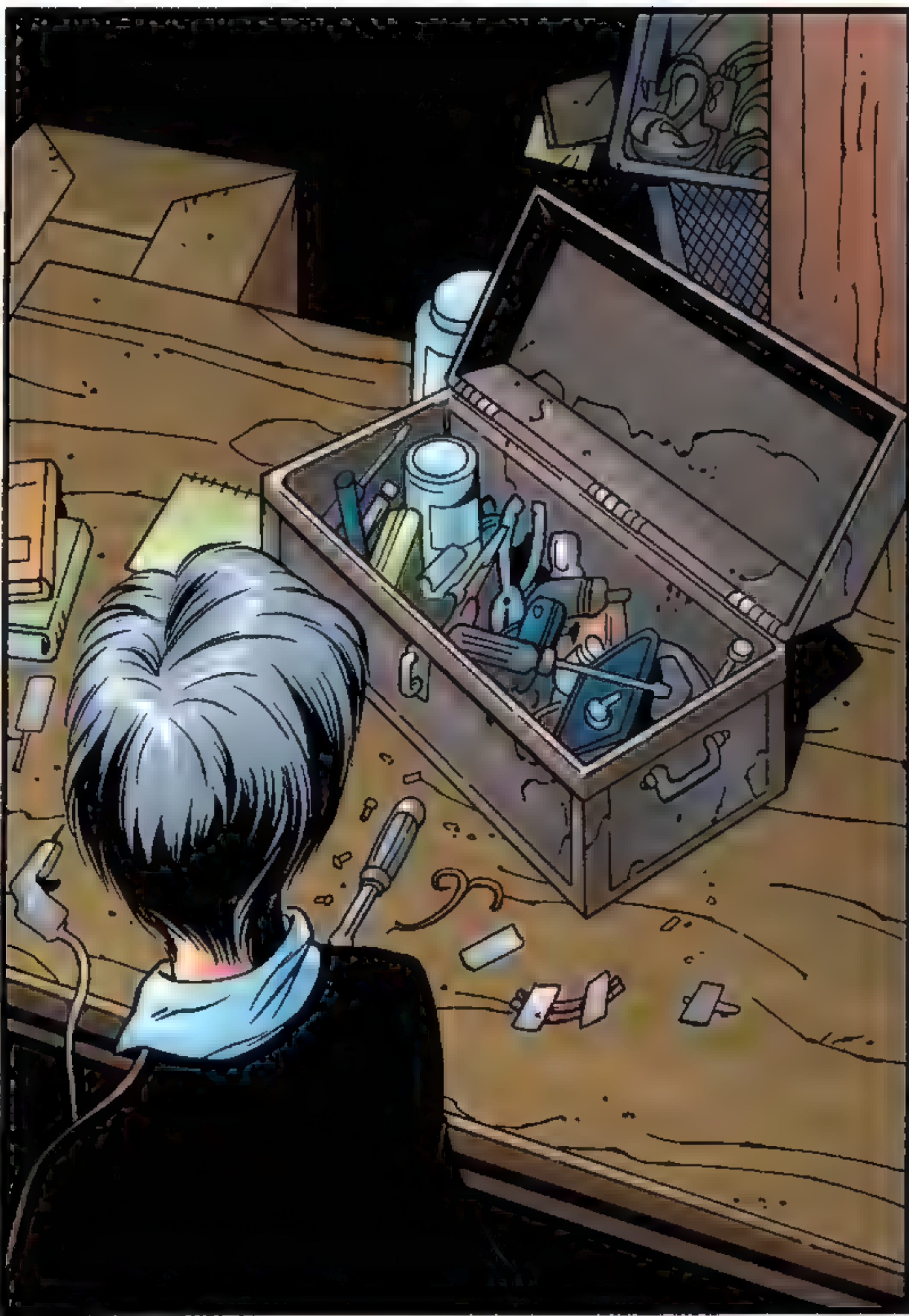
One secret! That's all I want.

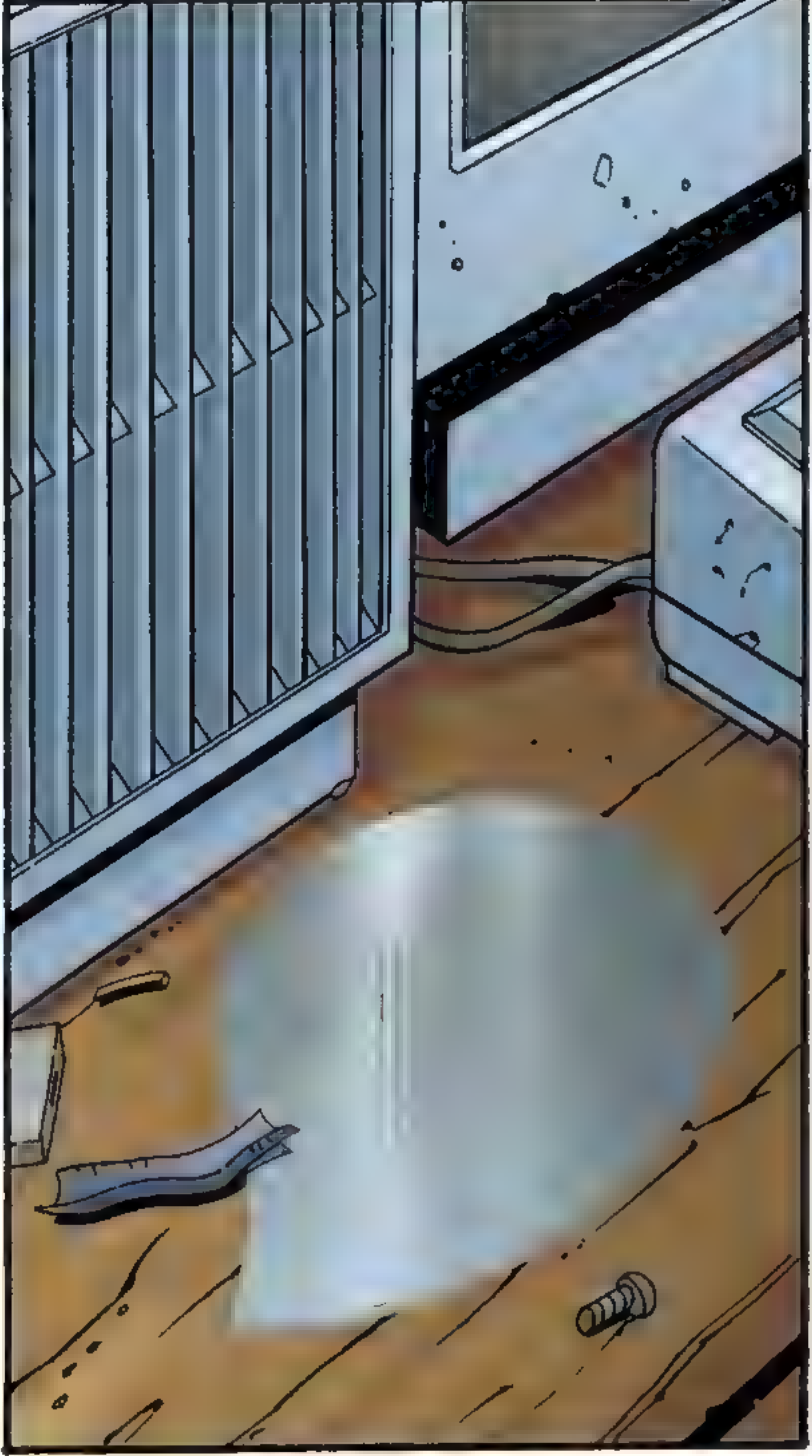
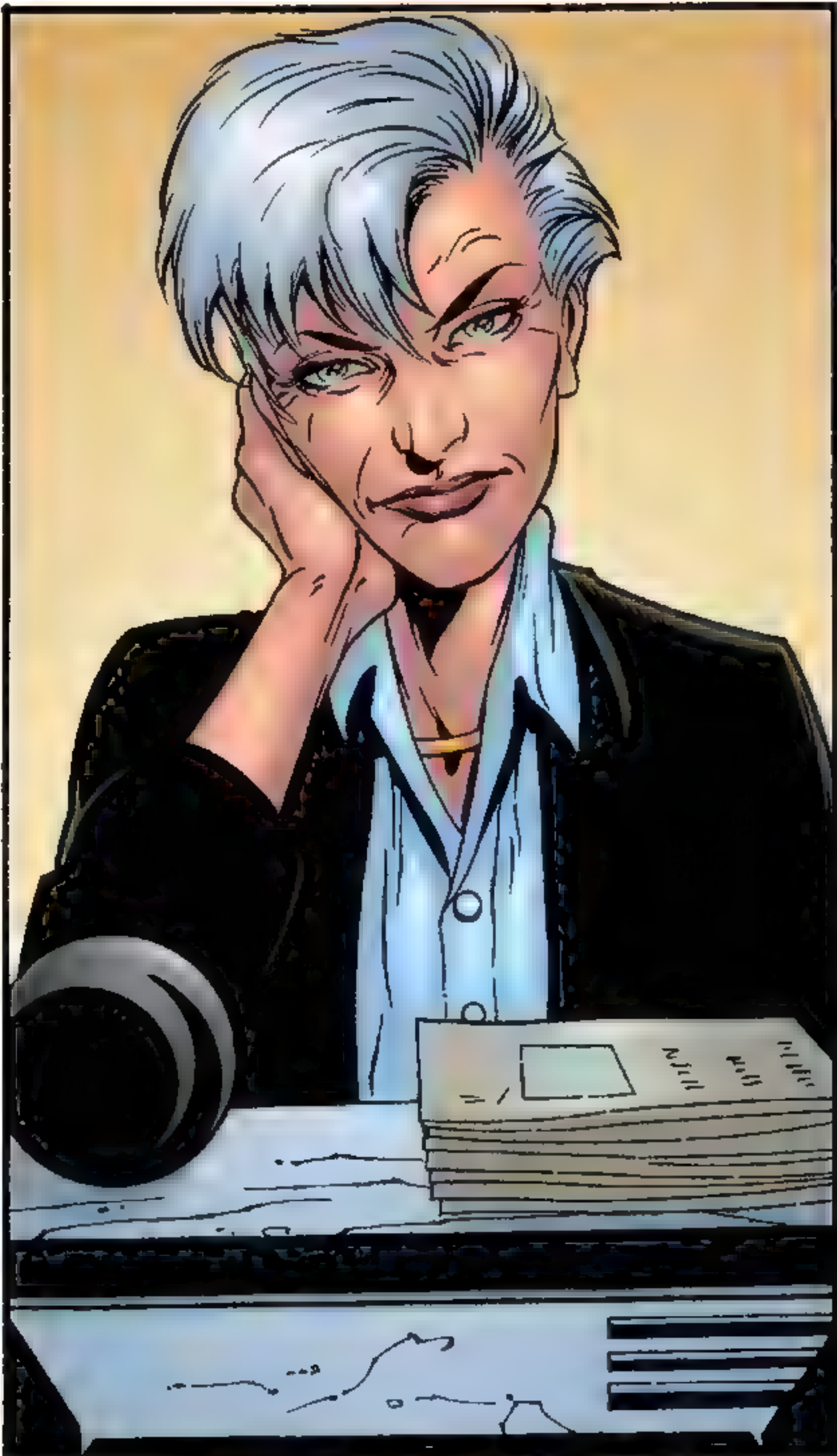
I want to put on the mask and keep it on!! And every time I turn around someone somewhere finds out I'm Peter Parker!!

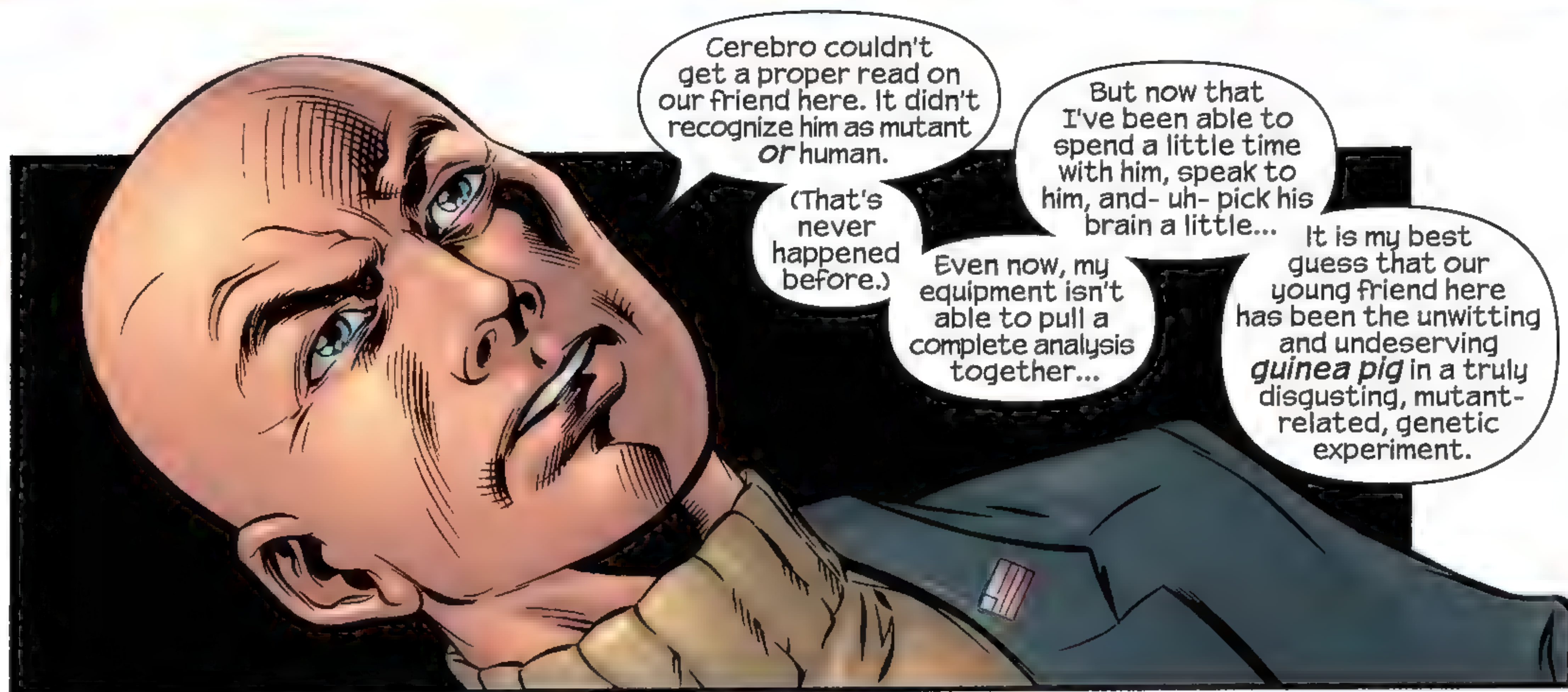
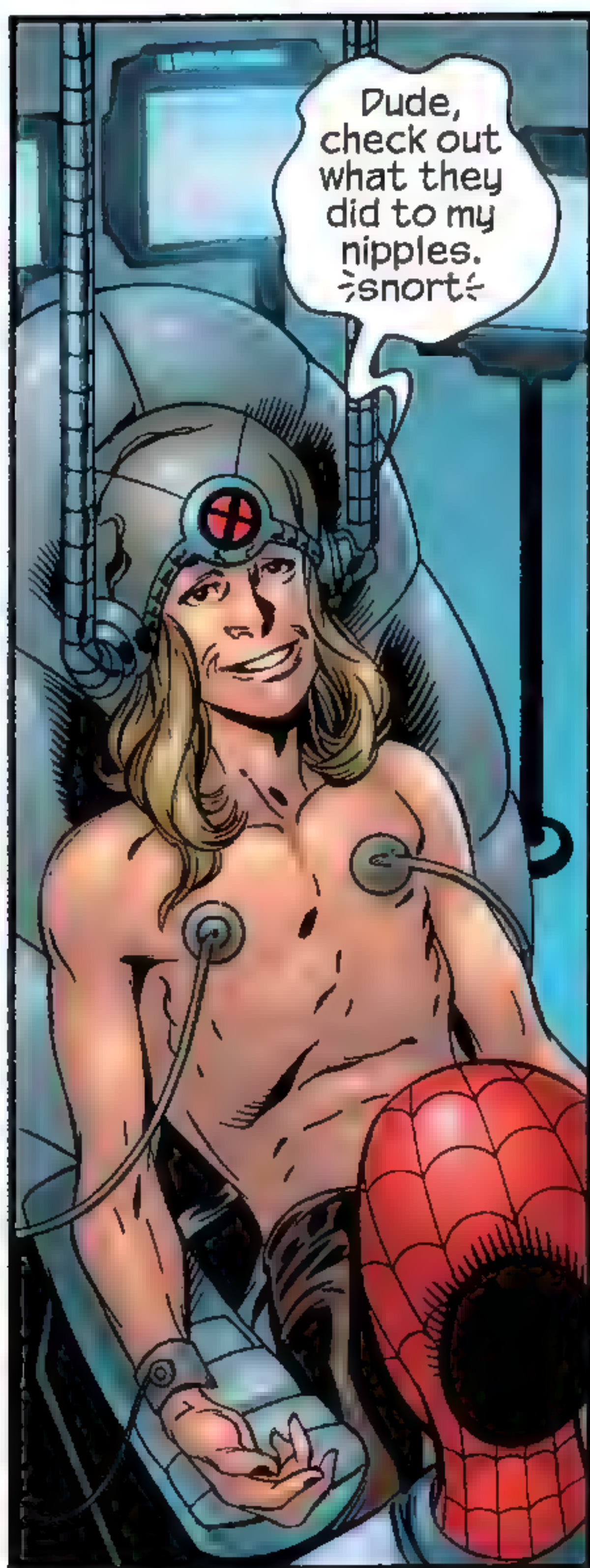


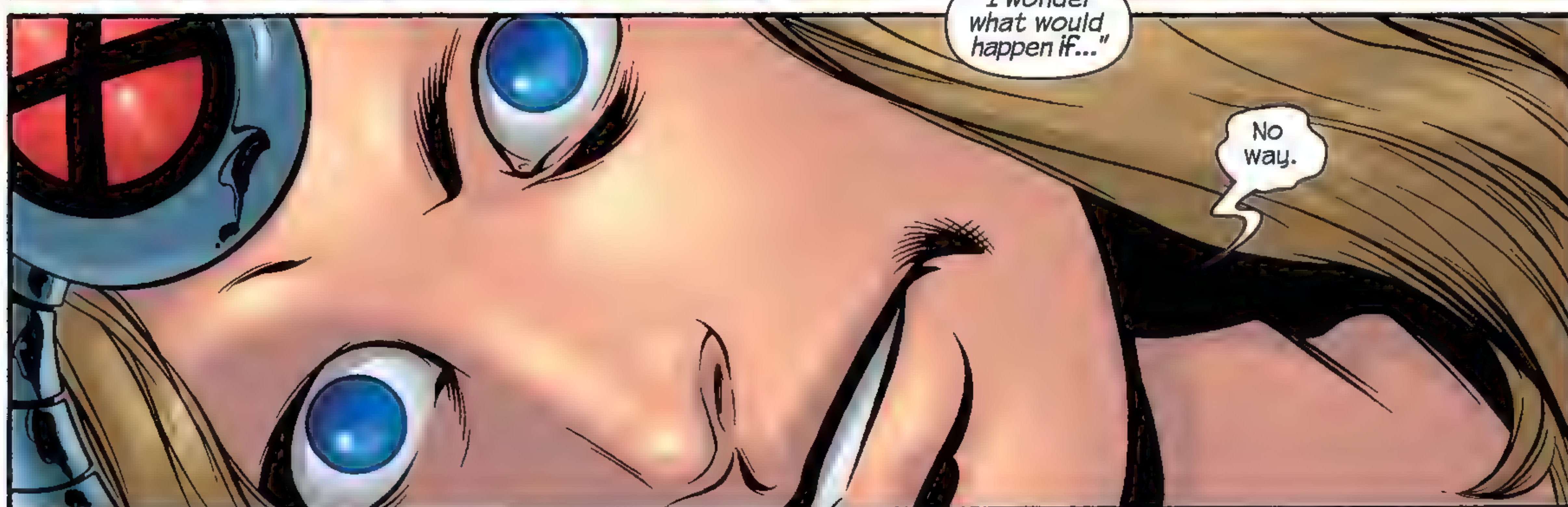
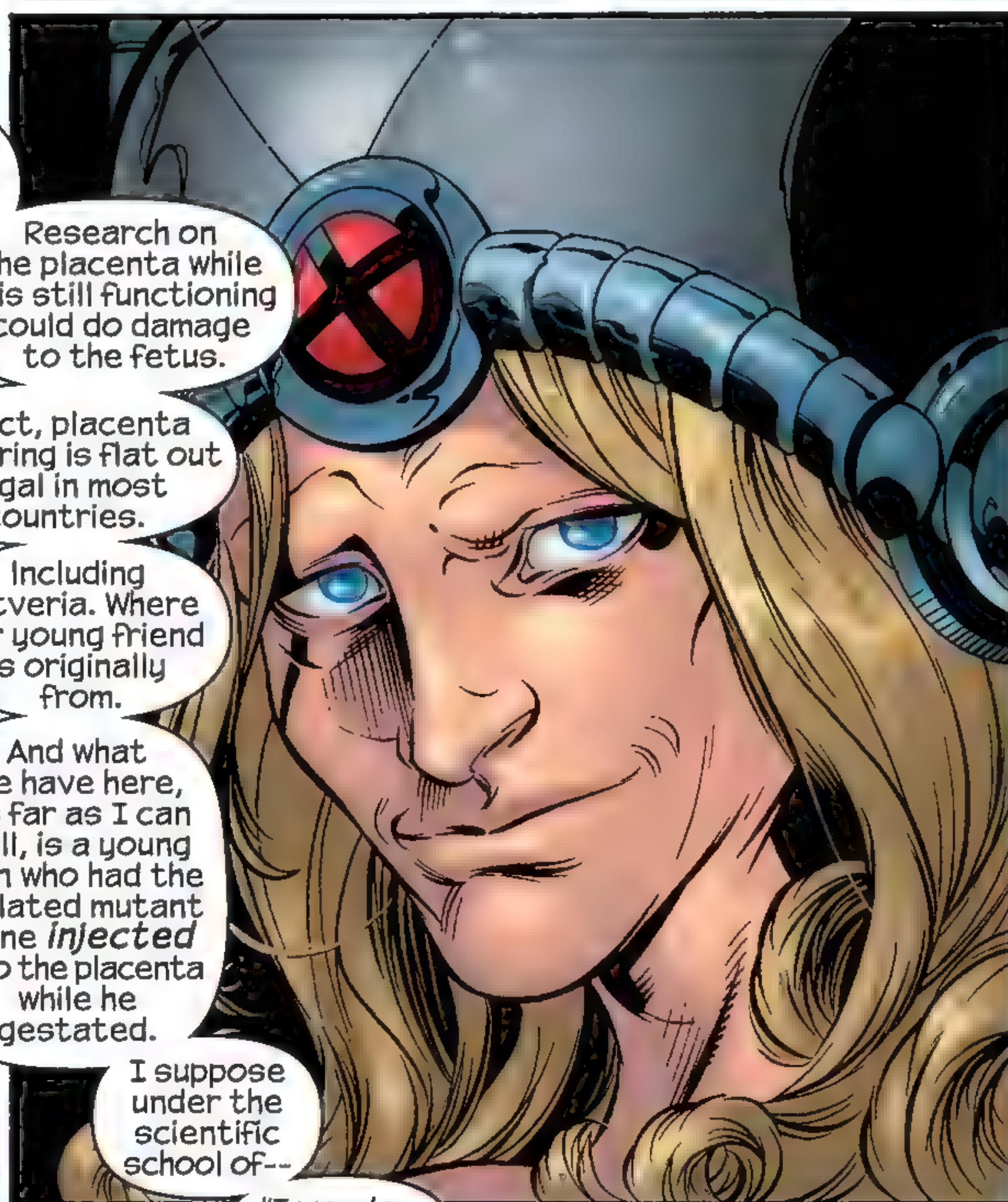
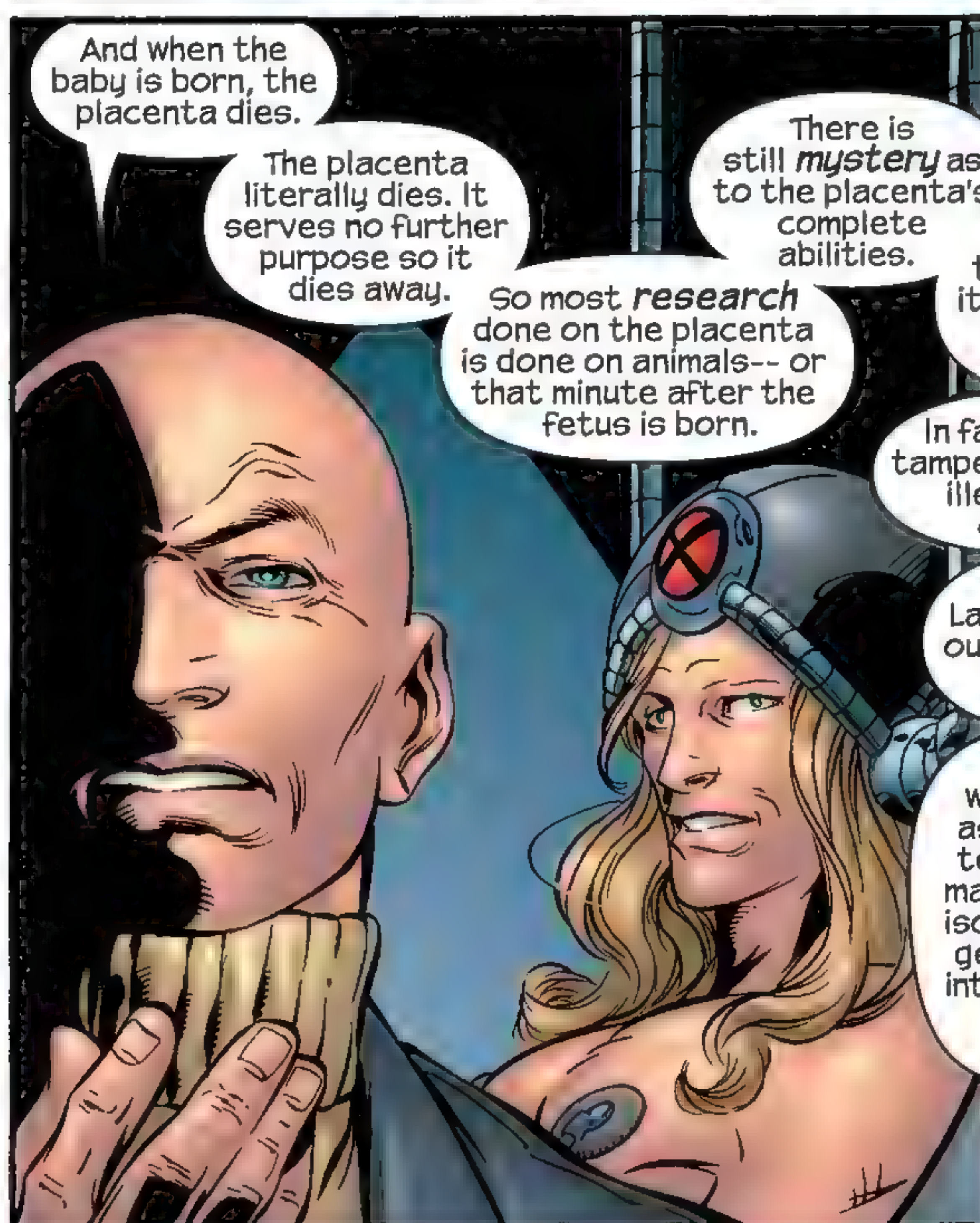
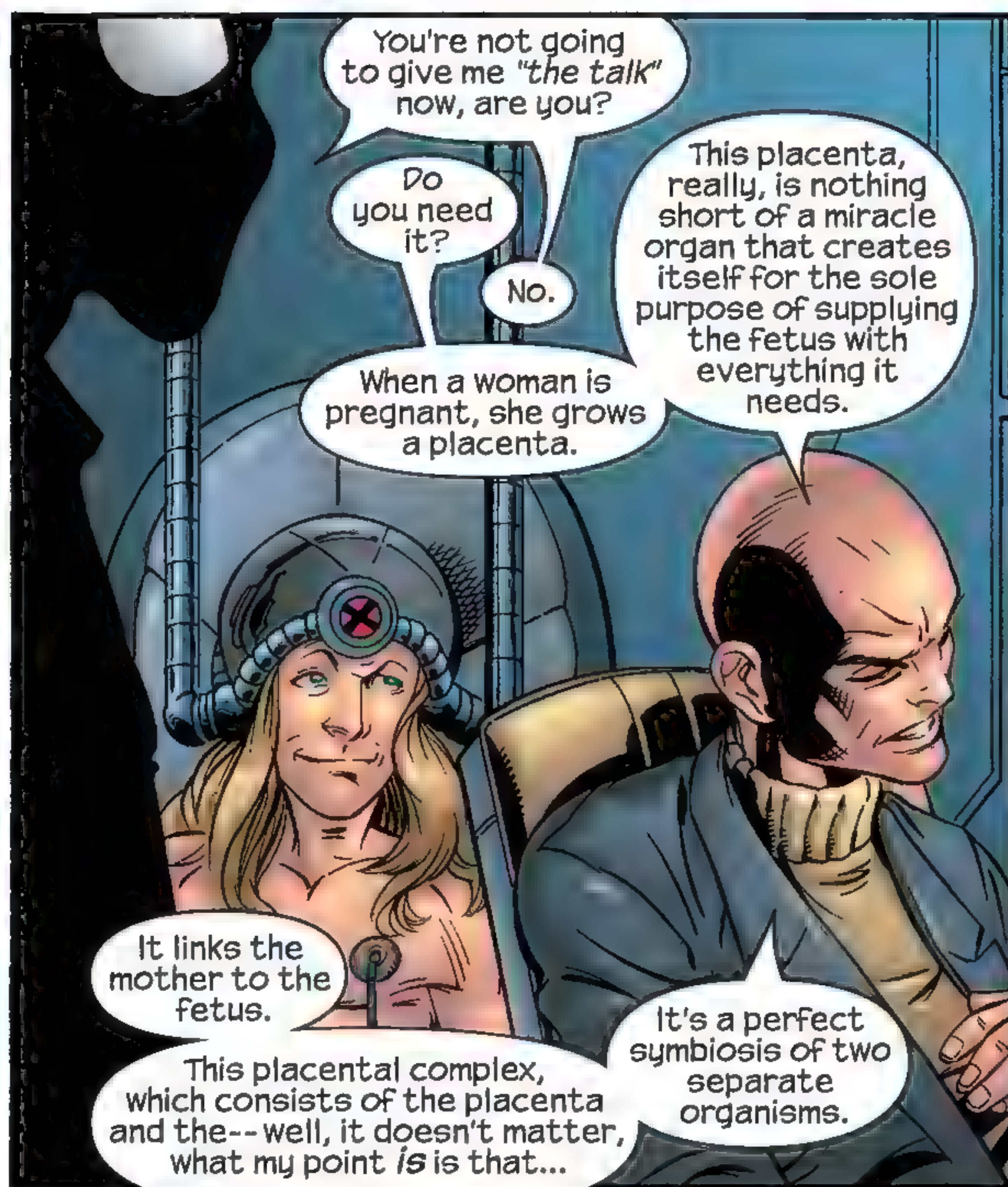
We- uh- we didn't know your name.

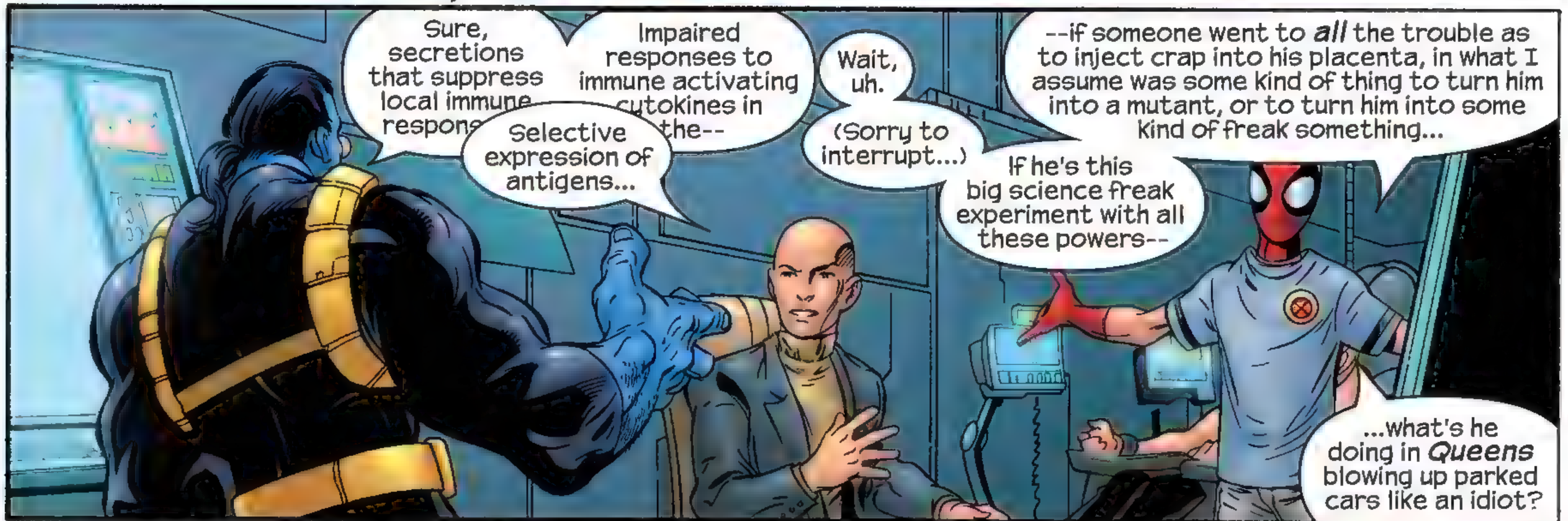














What if this guy here doesn't want any part of your agenda?

It's not my agenda, it's a human rights/mutant rights moral--

Yeah, see, he seemed to be pretty homophobic.

Mutantphobic.

(Mutantphobic.)

I bet, seriously, I bet he wouldn't want to have anything to do with any of this.

At this point... it's not his decision to make.

There's bigger considerations.

Than what? Than his life?

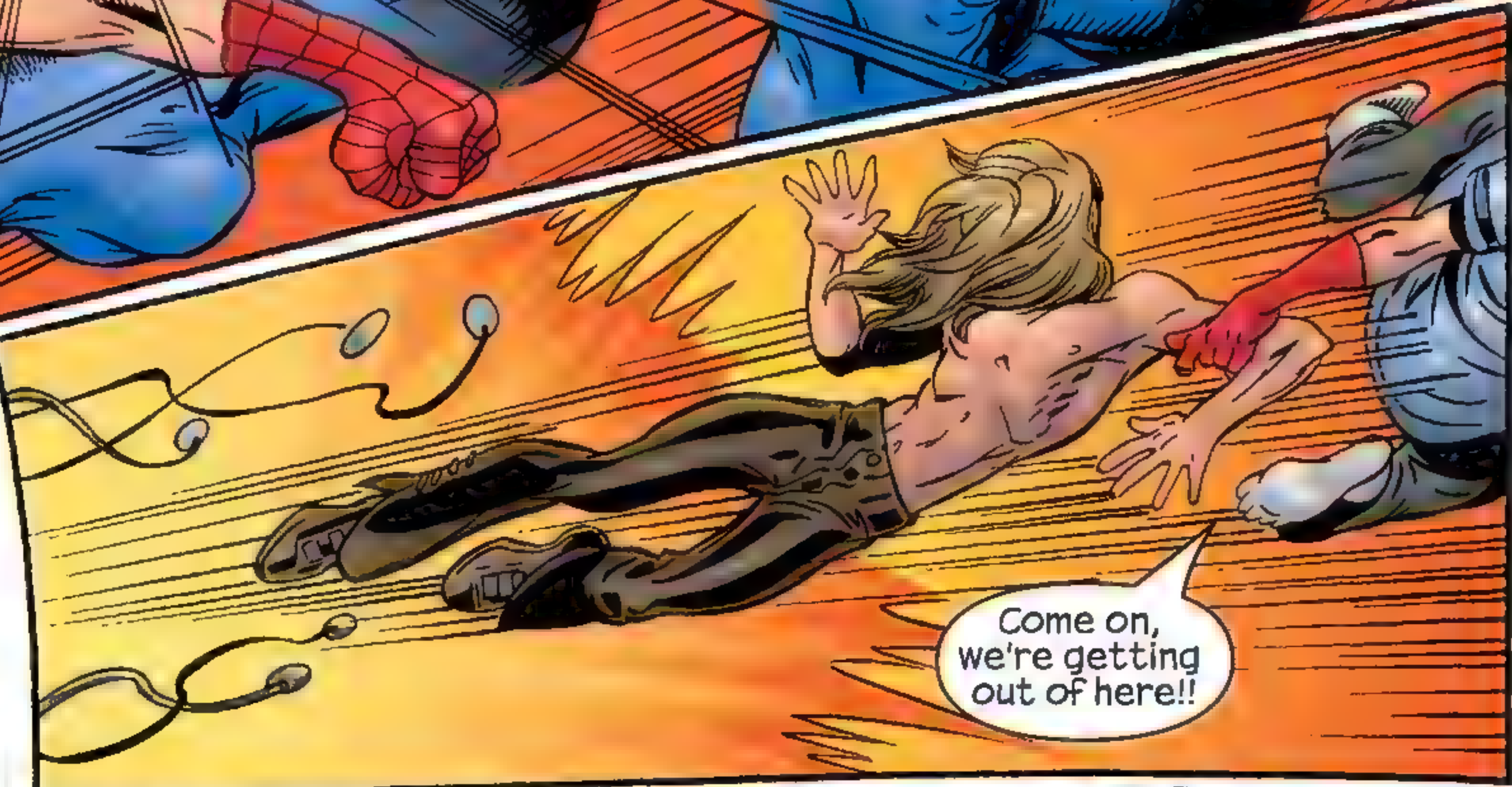
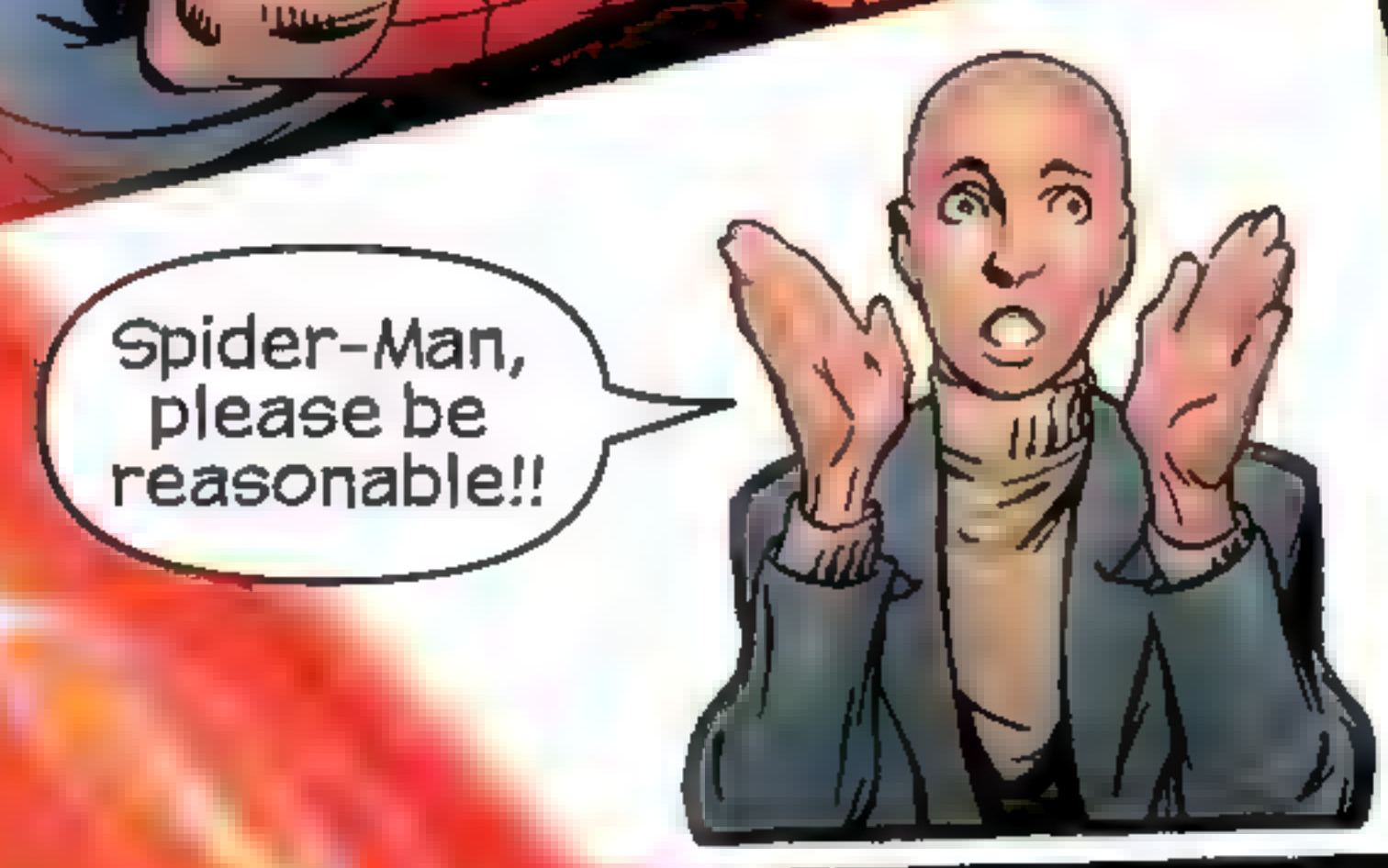
I understand what you are saying, Peter. I understand you.

But the madman who did this to him in the first place is the person you should be frustrated with, not me.

And I'm saying, isn't this guy going to get a shot at a normal life?

Define normal.

Exactly.







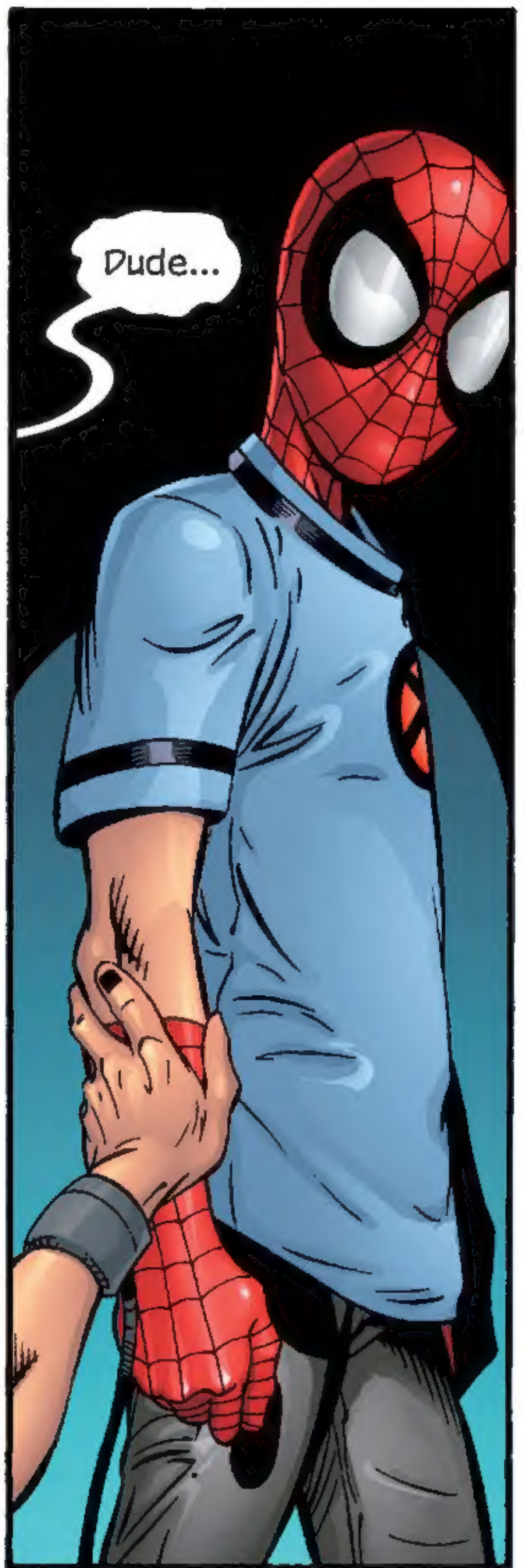
Peter, you've read my work.

You know what my X-Men stand for...

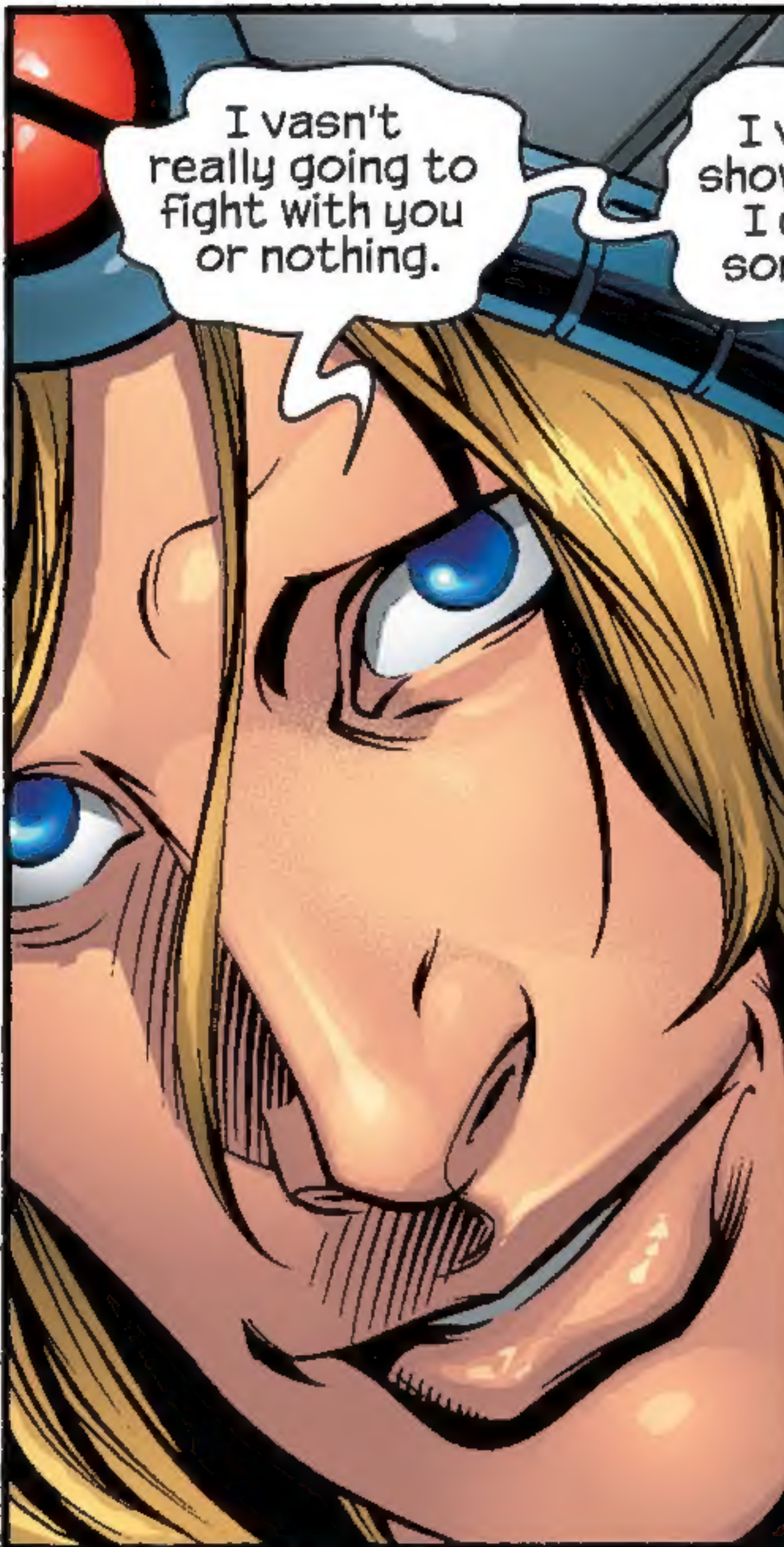


I promise that this young man will be treated with respect and that good, *true* good, will come from this.

And as far as Geldoff's rather ignorant point of view on the mutant experience...
He and I, we'll have a talk.

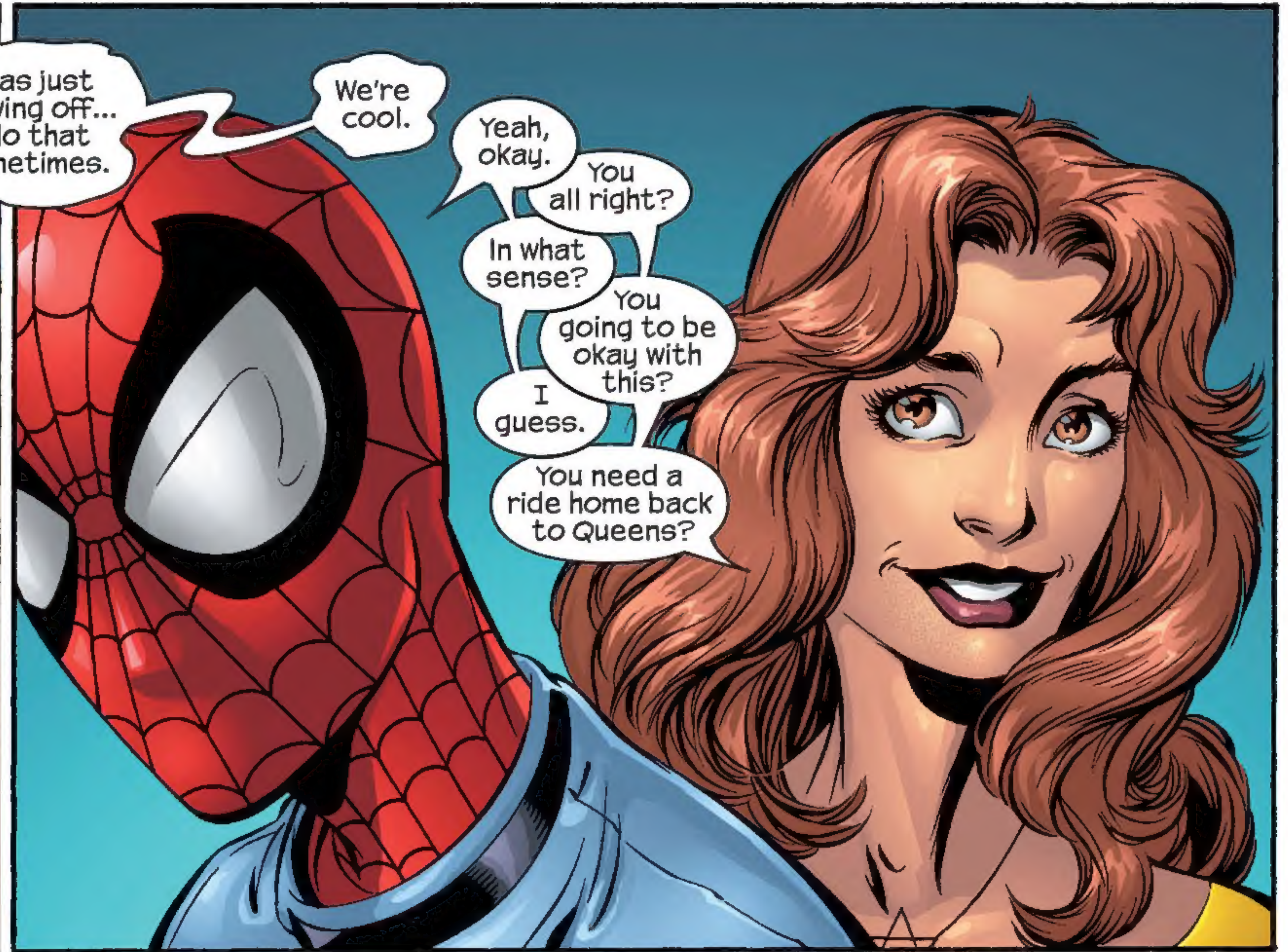


Dude...



I wasn't really going to fight with you or nothing.

I was just showing off... I do that sometimes.



We're cool.

Yeah, okay.

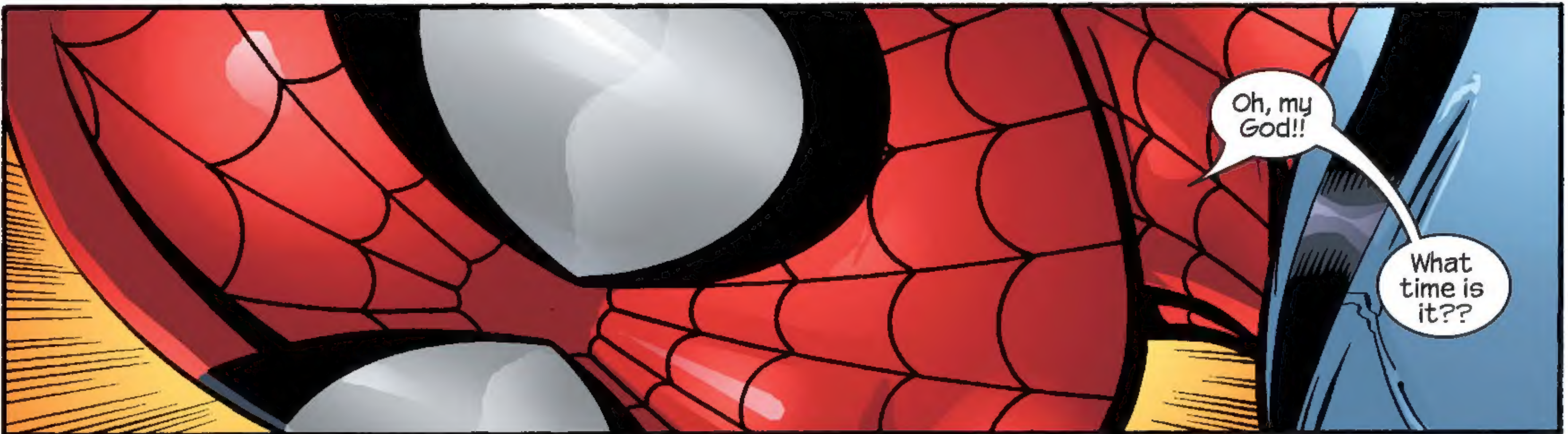
You all right?

In what sense?

You going to be okay with this?

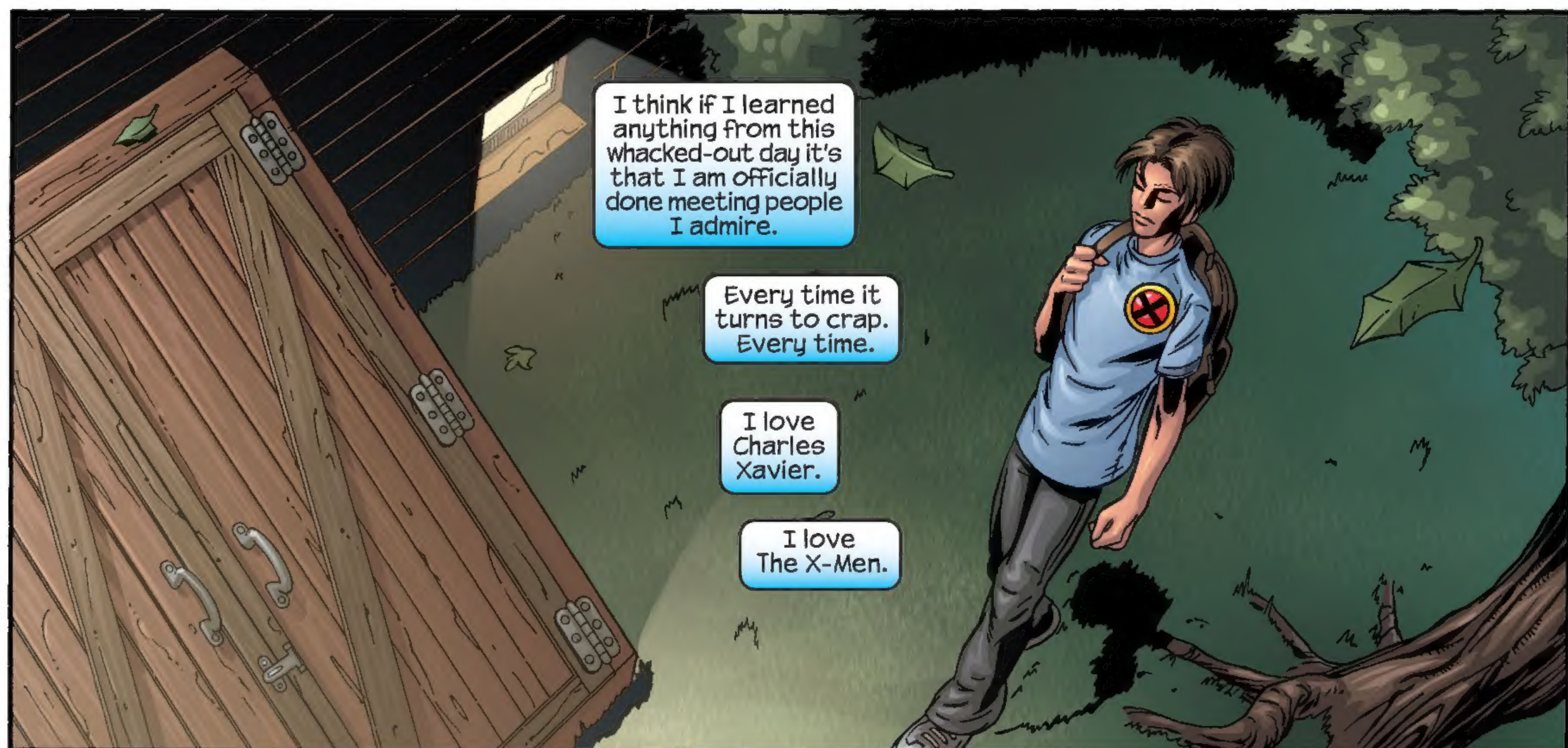
I guess.

You need a ride home back to Queens?



Oh, my God!!

What time is it??



I think if I learned anything from this whacked-out day it's that I am officially done meeting people I admire.

Every time it turns to crap. Every time.

I love Charles Xavier.

I love The X-Men.



And I am totally into their cause and everything, but...

Now I am so frustrated with this whole thing I want to smack him.

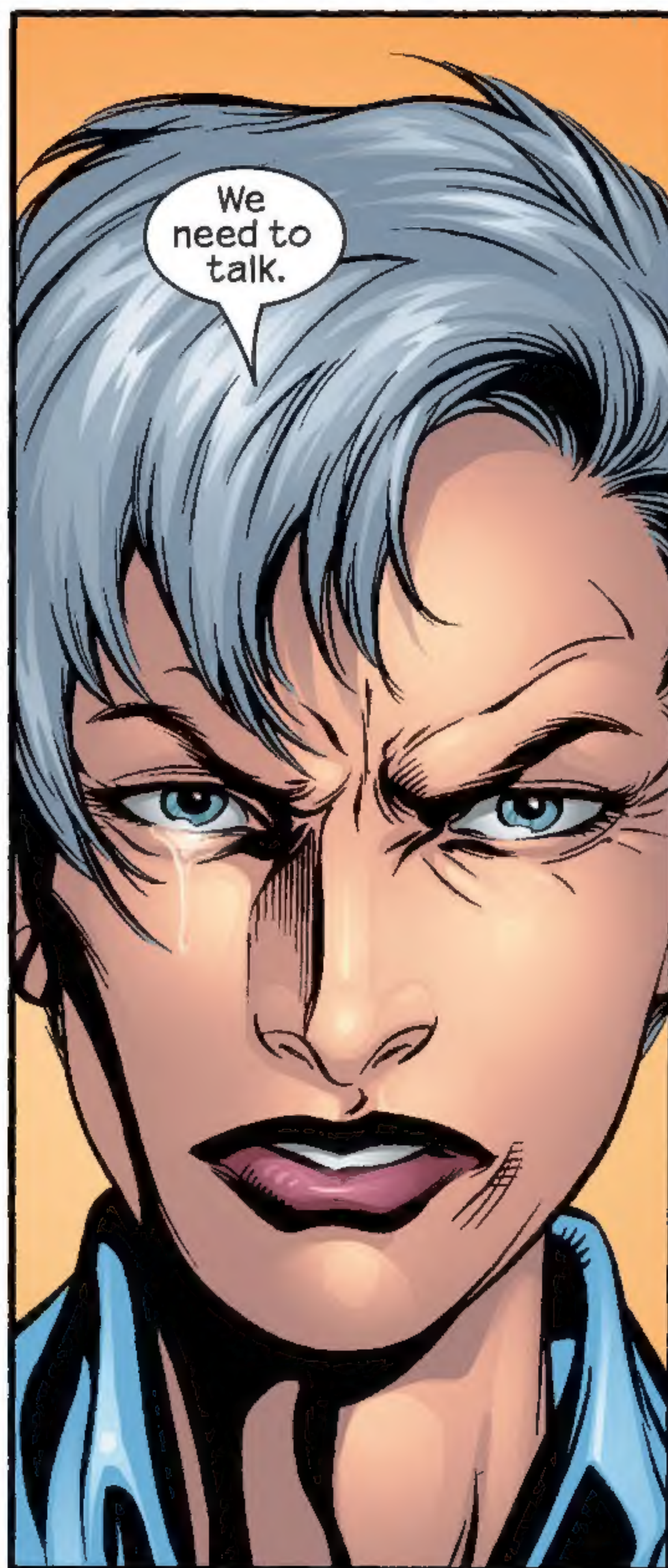
(Oh, I hope he's not still reading my mind.)

Uh, h-hello?



Professor X? Are you still listening to--

Uh-oh.



We need to talk.





SON OF ULTRAMAN